Daily Report

Latin America

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FBIS-LAT-89-117 *20 June 1989*

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Parliamentarians Issue Declaration on Panama

PA1906135089 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 19 Jun 89 pp 1, 30

["Text" of declaration issued by delegates to Latin American parliamentary members meeting in Panama City on 18 June]

[Text] DECLARATION ISSUED BY THE LATIN AMERICAN PARLIAMENTARY MEMBERS' MEETING FOR PANAMA

"IN 2000, THEY WILL FIND US UNITED"

We, the participants in the Latin American Parliamentary Members Meeting for Panama, gathered in Panama City on 17 and 18 June 1989.

WHEREAS:

1. We assumed as our own the manifesto "AGAINST THE INTERVENTION IN PANAMA," which was signed by more than 500 parliamentary members of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela; and we also assume the terms of the National Ecuadoran Congress' resolution and the Bolivian delegation's declaration issued at the meeting.

2. We ascertained that the conflict in Panama is the result of economic pressure and the increase of U.S. military members and equipment, and that the international disinformation and defamation campaign is caused by the U.S. Government's obvious and constant interest in abrogating the agreements stated in the 1977 Torrijos-Carter treaties.

3. The resolutions adopted to date by the OAS on Panama's case have not ensured respect for the nation's self-determination as stated in the UN and OAS Charters.

4. We assert and denounce that the U.S. military intervention in Panama precludes the exercise of fundamental rights, particularly free transit through its own territory and freedom of the press.

5. We believe that the above violates Panama's sovereignty and endangers the self-determination, integration, and peace of the entire Latin American Continent. Therefore, we declare that:

I. We demand that the United States fully comply with the Torrijos-Carter treaties signed in 1977, especially concerning the following:

A) The turnover of canal installations and administration to the Panamanian people.

B) The withdrawal of military bases from Panamanian soil.

C) The suspension of economic, political, and diplomatic measures against Panama.

II. We ask the OAS member countries to reject any type of pressure related to Panama's case that may lead them to make resolutions that go against the principles established by the OAS Charter.

III. We will request that the governments of the "Group of Eight" countries reintegrate Panama into the group.

IV. We declare that we have selected participants in this meeting to form an ad hoc commission that basically serves to:

A) Promote compliance with the 1977 Torrijos-Carter treaties by means of public campaigns.

B) Counteract the campaign of disinformation and slander against Panama.

C) Send this declaration to the Latin American Parliament, so that this organization, according to its basic principles, will become an effective mechanism of pressure on the United States on Panama's behalf.

Signed by 150 Latin American parliamentarians from 15 countries, representing 47 political parties.

[Signatures indistinct]

ALIDE Issues Communique on Brady Plan

PY1706171789 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2024 GMT 16 Jun 89

[Text] Lima, 16 Jun (EFE)—The Latin American Association of Financial Institutions for Development (ALIDE) today said that although the Brady plan presents positive aspects to debtor countries, it also creates resistance in banks and hinders additional financing.

The ALIDE, headquartered in Lima, reported the conslusions reached in its 19th general assembly that has just ended in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

During the meeting, ALIDE members discussed prospects for Latin American development during the 1990's. They believe that this development can be achieved only if "profound changes modernizing and modifying the productive structure of Latin American countries are implemented."

The prospects "are rather discouraging," the ALIDE communique states. It adds that the foreign debt issue must be resolved through "prompt implementation of policies and the adoption of tools that may reduce the debt considerably and revert the negative remittance of money abroad."

The industrialized countries must reinforce the international monetary system's tendencies and change the protectionist policies to ensure a fairer division of international trade, the note adds.

The communique points out that "it would be an illusion to expect the international private banks to grant loans to finance regional development projects in the next few years."

These projects can only be financed by domestic resources obtained through policies aimed at reorienting consumption and investment patterns, particularly through the supply and demand of goods.

As a whole, the communique states, investment for development must be sought by selecting priorities that will guarantee economic reactivation.

According to ALIDE, the challenges being faced by Latin America are overcoming the economic crisis, resuming its economic growth, and "competing in a world that will probably be barren in the 1990's."

In view of these challenges, the development banks must organize themselves to support the businessmen and to use the Latin American problems as a way of competing in the foreign market. To help achieve these goals, ALIDE offers its service "as a channel to gather and convey the parties' interests."

Cuba

Government Opposes TV Marti Broadcasting

AU1906205889 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 15 Jun 89 p 6

[Interview with Jorge Gomes Barata, head of the Department of Revolutionary Orientation attached to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, by Bratislava PRAVDA staff journalist Lydia Vyborna: "Television Subversion Will Not Overpower Us"—in Havana, date not given]

[Excerpts] At the end of May in the White House, during a meeting with Americans of Cuban origin, U.S. President George Bush affirmed, among other things, that the anti-Cuban Radio Marti, provocatively named after the Cuban national hero Jose Marti, will continue broadcasting, and promised to put a similar television station into operation. Television Marti [TV Marti] is to begin test transmissions in the coming fall. How does Cuba, the first socialist country in the western hemisphere, view this further escalation of hostile U.S. actions? Jorge Gomes Barata, head of the Department of Revolutionary Orientation attached to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, answered this question and other questions about current domestic political developments in the Island of Freedom for our staff journalist Lydia Vyborna in Havana.

[Barata] [Passage omitted] The United States plans to broadcast various anti-Cuban programs 6 hours a day (1800-2400). These are unprecedented plans. The United States has taken it into its head to broadcast to a country which does not want this. In addition, this has nothing in common with international television practice. To this day there exists no television station which concentrates on broadcasting to a foreign country. Satellites make this possible. Until now, they have been used on the basis of an agreement between countries owning them and countries interested in their services. I must say that local television stations should provide their services without outside interference. [passage omitted]

The dictate of U.S. television bothers us, and we consider its broadcasts in the direction of Cuba to be a violation of our national sovereignty. The sovereignty of Cuba, of its territory, also includes television and radio space, and this space cannot be attacked or "occupied" against the will of the Cubans. This is our stance, and I think that it is clear enough to the public in Czechoslovakia or in some other country to believe that we are fighting American television. In the summer months people very often watch American television and obtain special antennas for this purpose. We do not do anything against it; we do not prosecute anyone; this is not in our interest. [passage omitted]

[Vyborna] Do you think the Cuban people are ready to live with TV Marti broadcasts?

[Barata] Yes, I think so. Our people can cope with worse things. The Cuban people have survived the American blockade for 30 years. The United States tried to kill us with hunger; it forced us to change our technologies, our trade, our political relations. The United States tried to isolate us. For many years we had no relations with any Latin American country, with the exception of Mexico. We survived American pressure, aggression, military threats. And now we could not take a television program?! The only problem is that the United States wants to do as it pleases with our country. When the United States wishes to broadcast television programs to some country, it must discuss this with it. Television space is part of a country's sovereignty, which must be safeguarded in the same way as the country's territory. [passage omitted]

[Vyborna] What conditions does Cuba provide for the work of Western journalists?

[Barata] Western journalists have a free hand for their work in Cuba. In no way are they restricted. Every journalist can ask anyone for an interview, for example me, and I will either give it to him or not. This is my right. We do not even have any administrative measures for Western journalists. Of course, when they arrive in Cuba they must be accredited to the press center of the Ministry of Foreign Relations, and after that they can travel freely throughout the country. However, access to sources or certain objects is a different matter. They must ask for permission to enter a certain place. Restrictions of a legal, police, or administrative nature do not exist. [passage omitted]

Chilean Communist Leader Grants News Conference

FL1906172489 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 19 Jun 89

[Report by Alexis Sotolongo]

[Text] The line of rebellion of the masses, in its diverse forms, is the goal that will be developed by the Communist Party of Chile [PCCh], following an express mandate issued at the 15th PCCh Congress, said General Secretary Volodia Teitelboim in a news conference this morning at the headquarters of the AALAPSO [Afro-Asian-Latin American People's Solidarity Organization].

The renowned Chilean leader and intellectual outlined the characteristics that were necessary for the most important event of the Chilean Communists to be held in the heart of Chile and under severe clandestine measures. The PCCh secretary general, who is in Cuba on a working visit, also said that upon reviewing the current situation in his country, the transition during Pinochet's dictatorship and democracy—awaited by many—has not even begun yet.

Grants TV Interview

FL2006032689 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 20 Jun 89

[Text] Volodia Teitelboim, general secretary of the Communist Party of Chile [PCCh], has granted an exclusive interview for Cuban television. Following are a few segments of his conversation with our journalist:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified journalist] Comrade Volodia, could you tell us about some of the main agreements and resolutions of the recently concluded PCCh congress?

[Teitelboim] All the opinions of our people were processed and studied to see what they thought of the situation, of the meeting, of the problems in Chile, and of the solutions they were proposing. The main resolution was to ratify our political line—known as the popular rebellion of the masses. The popular rebellion of the masses has elements for an armed solution and for a peaceful solution. However, it does not strictly adhere to neither one, because, fundamentally, it is the sum of all the forms of combat. It was a call to the people, and it was also the formulation of a plan. Our attitude... [rephrases] or (?second) resolution, was the following: The dilemma of our country is dictatorship or democracy. Therefore, we will do everything to overthrow the dictatorship and return democracy. Looking at this, we think about the total unification of the opposition. In Chile, the opposition is vastly the majority. The majority and the [word indistinct] of the Chileans want an end to a 16-year-old nightmare.

[Journalist] After the October plebiscite which said "no" to Pinochet, the opposition has been involved in effecting changes to the Constitution—of a fascist (?nature) which exists in Chile. A few days ago, the regime announced that some modifications will be made. Do you think that these changes that have been announced will contribute to a real democratic opening in Chile?

[Teitelboim] No, absolutely not. This is a maneuver. They are cosmetic operations to prevent, in the future, after the triumph of a civilian democratic candidate, the rescinding of the (?1980) Constitution, which is what really must be done. This is a constitution that does not have a solution, it is definitely fascist and antidemocratic, and incompatible with freedom.

[Journalist] A few hours ago, it was announced that the U.S. Government had rejected an extradition request for the opposition fighter Sergio Buschmann. What do you think about the fact that the United States, itself, has refused the request?

[Teitelboim] The United States would have faced its own public opinion which would not have accepted that a man be turned in to be killed, judged in a draconian way by the fascist dictatorship. I think that Sergio Buschmann has saved his life—to our joy and satisfaction— among other reasons, because of the strength and value of international solidarity which has created a total isolation of the Pinochet government. [end recording]

Ugandan Minister Praises Medical Brigade

FL1906211889 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1941 GMT 19 Jun 89

[Text] Ronald Bata, Ugandan minister of state for public cooperation [title as heard], has expressed his satisfaction over the medical aid given by Cuba to his country, according to PRENSA LATINA.

The Ugandan official praised the two brigades of Cuban doctors, technicians, and nurses for the work they do in the area of study and attention to AIDS victims, and other care in the field of orthopedics.

Bata also said that Uganda will establish a medical school in Barara, in the southwestern part of the country, with the assistance of Cuba. The aid will consist not only of technology and equipment but teachers will also be provided. The new university, said the Ugandan leader, will train doctors in the care of people in rural areas, and its students will combine study with practice starting on their second year. The official also praised the Cuban workers for their dedication to work.

Castro Receives Romanian Communist Party Member

AU1606202089 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1803 GMT 16 Jun 89

[Text] Havana, AGERPRES, 16/06/1989—Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, president of the Council of State and of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba, received Lina Ciobanu, member of the Executive Political Committee of the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party [RCP], deputy prime minister, and chairman for Romania in the Romanian-Cuban Joint Intergovernmental Commission on Economic, Technical and Scientific Cooperation, which held its eighth session in Havana.

On the occasion and on behalf of RCP General Secretary Nicolae Ceausescu, president of Romania, and of Mme Elena Ceausescu conveyed was a warm comradely salute and best wishes of good health and personal happiness to the Cuban leader, as well as new successes in building socialism in Cuba to the Cuban Party and people.

Fidel Castro Ruz asked that on his behalf President Nicolae Ceausescu and Mme Elena Ceausescu be conveyed a message of high appreciation of the work carried out with a view to building the multilaterally developed socialist system in Romania, as well as lots of good health and power to work.

Also highly appreciated were the good relations between the two parties, countries and peoples in all the domains of activity, as well as their prospects of development.

Raul Castro Delivers Speech to Western Army

FL1506024089 Havana Domestic Radio and Television Services in Spanish 0033 GMT 15 Jun 89

[Speech by Army General Raul Castro Ruz, minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Cuba, FAR, at the main ceremony in the FAR Universal Hall marking the 28th anniversary of the founding of the Western Army—live]

[Text] Dear comrades, we commemorate the 28th anniversary of the founding of the Western Army which was created by the order of our commander in chief on 14 June 1961. This date coincides, happily, with the birthday of Antonio Maceo and Commander Ernesto Guevara.

I must clarify for the comrades of the Western Army and for the guests of the Ministry of the Armed Forces and the General Staff, the changes that had to be made for this ceremony. We had planned an internal ceremony, for us, at the 1,700 military unit, if I remember correctly. [Journalist gets in the way of TV camera while taking pictures of Raul. Raul says to him: Are you aware, comrade journalist, that there is order in this room?] The ceremony was going to take place in a room for 300 comrades. However, when our press made public the news that Comrade Division General [Arnaldo T.] Ochoa had been arrested, all the chiefs of large units, armies, and armed forces of the interior of the country immediately called saying that they also wanted to be present at this moment. That is why, at about 0300 [0700 GMT] we had to change the location to this place. We are more comfortable here, and more people can fit here. Because, when this ceremony was announced and this unfortunate event made known, the television services asked if it was possible to broadcast what I was going to say. It was discussed at the Central Committee, and it approved the broadcast of this event directly to the people, after the 2000 [0000 GMT] newscast. It is the "We are already on the air" newscast, as they say. [addresses photographer] To the journalist around there who is talking a lot: Please be quiet—or the photographer, excuse me.

That is why we are gathered here, and we are going to talk about the Western Army. This early morning, I was tackling what I was going to say in our modest meeting which was only going to be published in the military press. We are going to talk a bit about Ochoa, not everything that everyone is expecting. It is a very long story, and it will be explained later. We will also talk about a very important subject, that I think we should broach in a few pages, as a final point—we should talk about some aspects of bilateral relations of the United States and Cuba. We should talk about some aspects of the field, about the field of military operations, in our case. We should talk about the increase of all kinds of activities—undoubtedly with the intention of heating up, you could say, the atmosphere of euphoria, intoxication, that the chiefs of the empire have at this moment. Those are the three subjects I am planning to talk about. We had also planned at the other location some decorations for outstanding comrades of the Western Army. I promise you that in a future visit that we will soon coordinate, we will meet again at least with those who must be decorated. I would like to have the honor, if the chief of the Army invites me, to participate in that event.

I was saying that since its emergence, the Western Army has been assigned the great responsibility of safeguarding the region of the country where the capital and important centers of political, economic, and social life of the nation are located. It is a pleasure for me to share with you this celebration, given the continuous effort that has been carried out in the past few months. With firm steps, this command has begun to eradicate the critical situation through which it went in 1986—a time during which, among other matters, one saw a deficient exploitation and conservation [as heard] of technology, a low level of combat training, and in general, unsatisfactory results in the controls and inspections carried out. All of those factors significantly affected combat readiness. It was in this very room, on 5 March 1986, when we met. Of course, I do not ignore the tense situation experienced during many years. There were more or less 8,000 officers who were fulfilling internationalist missions at that time. Also, the very mechanism of constant rotation of chiefs and members of the general staff created additional difficulties in finding the cohesion and consolidation that every echelon of command must have.

There was a rotation of 8,000. There were moments when there were over 9,000 officers on mission. There was rotation every 2 years, every 3 years, which produced instability.

However, today, a little over 3 years later, we can firmly say with satisfaction that today we breathe a different air. I am referring to the other location where we were going to meet. The embarrassment and the honor with which you reacted to the severe criticism that was made at that time, explains the tenacious efforts and the modest, but definite, progress made in your work. I must emphasize that that huge effort was carried out during a time when there was a substantial increase in personnel and means, when units that were under other commands, were assimilated to this army. Such qualities and virtues can only be promoted by chiefs with the talent of educators, and with the authority which emanates from an authentic prestige, legitimately acquired in an uninterrupted gradual manner. That is the case of Division General Leopoldo Cintra Frias [applause]. Stand up Polito. [Cintra Frias stands up and camera gives a close-up shot of him.] He is here as an advisor. In the next few hours, days, he will return to his current post that he has been filling since January as chief of the

whole Cuban military mission in Angola. I clarify this for those in the public who do not know the reason why he is here, or what his post is, and other reasons I will later explain.

During the process—later it will be explained—of the last phase of the war in Angola, he was the chief of the powerful group of the southern troops. This means that at that moment, he had under his command approximately 80 percent of all the troops that were in Angola. Polito, as we veterans and newer officers know him at the FAR, has spent, counting his whole time, over 7 years in internationalist missions just in Angola and Ethiopia. Since he will be the chief of the troops in Angola, if the [word indistinct] do not determine the contrary, on 1 July 1991, when he leaves with the last soldier, he will have served 10 years in internationalist missions, and all of them combat missions. [applause] OK, that is enough. You have already applauded enough for Polito. You will also have to applaud for others. [laughter] He served internationalist missions in Ethiopia and the Peoples' Republic of Angola, and in this latter brother country he served most of his time as chief of the Cuban military mission. He also served, as I had already told you, during the crucial phase of the Cuito Cuanavale advance. It was under his direction that we carried out the advance of the Cuban and Angolan troops up to the Namibian border. During the actions of Techipe and Donguena, and the decisive strike of our Air Force in Calueque, General Cintra Frias carried out brilliantly his job as chief of the Cuban internationalist troops units of the southern front. He completely fulfilled with firmness and creativity the decisions that, in coordination with the command of the FAPLA, in other words the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola, were jointly adopted by Angola and Cuba. Those were decisions whose preparations were personally tended to by Commander in Chief Comrade Fidel, who sometimes worked up to 15 hours daily here in our General Staff. [applause]

For the military personnel, it is not by chance that I am telling this story. Meanwhile, during that same period of time, there was someone around here who had been made chief by a decision I made at a certain time—which I think was incorrect in light of what occurred, but who could have imagined it. While he was doing that in the south, at the front of the main body of our troops, Ochoa sometimes dedicated himself to working and the rest of the time to doing other things in Luanda. Some comrades have asked me: But why wasn't it stopped? Why was it allowed to build up? The things that have happened are very serious. Like the [Ministry of the FAR] note explains, it is not any kind of political problem, or anything like that; it is corruption. How does one fall into that? This has to do with what I am going to explain right now.

I must save my energy, [clears his throat] like you say, because I do not have much left, considering how much we have had to talk and work these days. In the case of some comrades, it was not a matter of working days but weeks.

I do not want to—because I had some elements, but they were insignificant—but I do not want to, after talking with the superior commission of our cadre to propose to the commander in chief that Ochoa be the chief of the Western Army. Division General [title as heard] [Ramon] Pardo was doing his job there just fine. When Polito left for Angola, I ordered General Pardo: You will remain at the head of the Western Army as second chief. However, I told him not to let the army fall behind; Polito had made it progress. I told him to not even make it advance, but at least to not let it fall behind. So, not only did the Western Army not fall behind, but it consolidated and moved ahead under the command of General Pardo. [applause]

Ochoa came by in January; he wanted to stay there. He came over one day and asked me: Listen, brother—he would always talk both seriously and kiddingly, you could never tell when it was one or the other. But we can't stop on that point right now. Later we will know, after the honor tribunal meets. In the next few days, all this will be compiled. We will need several days.

So, in January, his training began. You know that, but I am saying it for the benefit of the civilians who are listening to us on television. For us, any officer who takes on a higher command within his own specialty must train for some time, according to the kind of post. Ochoa, despite his experience, had to train at least for 2 months. He had to prove himself, which is another matter. He proved himself in the two most important armies, which are the Western Army and the Central Army, and in all the Armed Forces. That was in January when he came here, or in early February. However, I had my doubts. His nomination had already been approved by the central commission of cadres, the Central Committee, and the commander in chief. So, we continued with our monkeys on our back. Polito himself—with whom I had not shared this concern, as it was necessary to share it now in these recent days for which he was called—said: Propose his nomination for the Western Army. But Polito was saying that because he substituted Ochoa. Polito used to be Ochoa's boss. He said: Propose him. We analyzed it at the cadre commission—there was not even unanimity of opinion—but we went ahead. Finally, we thought, let him stay there 2 years, until Polito returns in July. We thought, let him rest a bit, and in 1991, take the command of the Western Army.

He ended his training. We made a tour, which I mention here in this speech. I am digressing from the text, because like I was explaining at the beginning, this speech was meant to be for one place and now it is for the whole country. We made a tour. He accompanied me. Pardo accompanied me throughout the whole army, which I mention here. We ended the tour in the eastern part of Havana Province. That day, the first secretary of

the party in the province, [Victorino] Lemus, invited me to speak at the Camilo Cinefuegos plant because the province had met its sugarcane harvest quota. That is where we ended our tour.

Then, I arrived at the ministry. Ochoa was all ready to receive me. As a matter of fact a parade practice was being held. The units that go on the 1 May parade were practicing. I leaned on the window, right there. I am giving these details because Ochoa has radio [corrects himself] television, and newspapers. Although he has not wanted to watch television, I suggested to him that he watch it so he can see me and what I am saying here. Besides, all this will also be published in the newspaper tomorrow. He came near me and said: Chief, what doubts are there?—you will not understand this now, you will understand it in the future—I told him: Yes there are some doubts. Especially, I want to have my doubts [as heard] when you are given the command of the Western Army. I no longer want to hear comments by anyone, or any kind of gossip. But do not worry, he said, I will receive you [as heard]. I had told him that today, 14 June, the 28th anniversary of the Western Army, I was going to give him possession of the command. It had already been approved by the commander in chief.

That is what was happening. However, we could not investigate him. We do not investigate anyone just like that for an ethical matter. Those were the types of things on which I tried to indirectly influence—using just some examples. The officer, I will not say the general, who I have reprimanded the most—be it sitting in front of him in an office, officially, at a family dinner, in the hallway—is named Arnaldo Ochoa Sanchez. The first thing I started criticizing him for was that he was always gossiping, joking. One never knew when he is talking seriously or jokingly; he would sometimes combine the two. I told him, and he had the [words indistinct] on day 24. The 24th got closer. But some elements started to spring up without an investigation. For the military personnel who is present here, for many of whom it was an honor to fight under his order and be in the places where they were, it must be very difficult to hear what I am saying. However, this will take hours to tell, and with all kinds of proof.

I think that the note that was carried on GRANMA this morning is (?significant). First of all, this is the moral we have to learn. Regardless of the number of stars one has on ones shoulders, and stars one may bear with the honorific title of Hero of the Republic, no one can put himself above the people, or anyone else! [applause] Most importantly, do not let anyone in this country, regardless of his merits, believe that he is untouchable. I think that the Revolution has been very patient—misunderstood humanism. Later, other chapters will occur. We will see how it is gradually [word indistinct], because there are many things that need to be investigated.

Because of the problem there is every time something happens, and we publish it criticizing it, we immediately agreed to hold this officers' meeting. It is a celebration; however, it is being turned into a meeting, an exposure of a serious problem, or two serious problems. Let the whole nation hear it! Often, in military life, (?unlike) in civilian life, there is concern that if the enemy finds out, he will publish it. The enemy knows more than we imagine. The people on the street know when this or that leader is going around doing sneaky things instead of working. Everyone knows, and we are the last ones to find out. Being sneaky and doing other things, it happens. Measures are not taken, people are warned about it, in different ways. We, ourselves... [incomplete sentence as heard] In the case of Ochoa, which I will not continue explaining here, since I will have a lot of explaining to do... [incomplete sentence as heard] I am the one that will have to do the report of the honor tribunal. Do you think that my voice is hoarse, or almost aphonic, for no reason at all? The matter is that it is more harmful to us when things like that happen. I am not talking about the Ochoa case, a case that everyone (?knows) about. He also has his accomplices, some officials of all ranks. They are accomplices in his businesses, etc, in that kind of gold fever that is going around now. The fever is going around in corporations, enterprises, etc, which have the right to exist. We are going through the stage of the gold fever which has resulted from the increase in tourism. Everyone wants to, honestly, get money, solve problems. It [the money] is not for them. Even with Ochoa, how many talks did I have with him? In the middle of the Cuito Cuanavale battle, he would say: I am doing a little business here and there. I would tell him: Listen, Ochoa, do you realize what you are telling me? He would answer: Chief, I am just kidding. I used to talk a lot with Ochoa. I would ask him: Are you talking to me seriously now, or are you kidding? The officers who worked closely with him knew he was like that.

So, some people with the best intentions in the world—like the people I call the saviors of the Republic—they get into everything and are serious. They say one must work, find dollars, and save more Cuban pesos. Whatever their intentions are, they must do it in an orderly way. All businesses, any kind of business, even if authorized, if it goes beyond the established norm of financial control, sooner or later, will end up in corruption. Presents—who knows how many Santa Clauses there are in this country! There are people who give presents here and there. I give you a present, you give me a present. Those are gifts, and they are not prohibited. I do not think there is a law against it in the Republic or in the party. I said the party, but the party does not make laws, it makes resolutions for its members.

I got ahead here, because this speech was for 0800 [1200 GMT], when some of us go to bed. [sentence as heard] But I am not complaining that I had to stay up working. I was preparing the speech for one reason, and I had to change it for the reasons I have given you. However, I will tell you one thing, but just one part of it.

Yesterday morning, the principal chiefs of the FAR, the highest FAR leaders of general staffs, the Army, Armed Forces, etc, and chiefs of political sections met with Army Corp General Abelardo Colome Ibarra and Ulises [Division General Ulises Rosales del Toro]. They later saw some material and Ochoa met with me before the investigation began against him. The investigations had not begun when I told him he was being detained. The proof we had of conversations with him was sufficient.

Colome was present and the chief of the General Staff, Division General Rosales del Toro, and I were present. I asked him: Do you want to confess? Confess so that you can see what kind of problem you have. Do you want me to remove Colome and Ulises from the meeting so that you can speak to me alone? No. I spoke for 3 hours there with papers, documents, this, that, everything. [Castro pounds the podium four times.] Be reasonable, remember everything I told you. No.

Two or 3 days later, the secretariat [as heard] calls me and asks to speak to me alone if possible. I was very pleased. I thought he would tell me of everything he was mixed up in, of all his problems. We would critique him. We would not place him in the Western Army but he could stay here with me. I even offered him the position of being my advisor. Several prestigious comrades work as my advisors. With so much more history than Efigenio Ameijeira, who is sitting there... [interrupted by applause] He came to the famous meeting alone. I said, the man at last is going to explain everything. This will simplify everything. I'll inform Comrade Fidel and the others who brought up this matter, the other comrades, and guess what, he said a few more things. I will not continue with this because I'll spend all night on this and I'm on page 3 of a 15-page speech.

The problem was that he got into a falange and we lost control and then it got worse and we were working against the clock. All those officials knew that Ochoa was expected to be named chief of the Western Army. They trained with him. They made those tours, etc. The date was set for the 24th but that is unimportant. We could have done it; it was no problem. All this is a coincidence because action was necessary and action was taken.

He is being treated, first of all, like any detainee is treated, besides being a general. No tribunal has yet held a trial or given a decision. He is still wearing his Heroe star. He's wearing his insignia, his decorations. He is not under interrogation. He is not being interrogated by the officials who are with him. Of course he is being detained but he is in a very comfortable location, as much as possible under those conditions. They speak with him. However, others are also speaking.

This is painful. Every time this happens to a comrade, it is traumatic. That is why a phrase that I said here at the beginning is not a casual remark. [Castro shuffles the papers of his speech to find his place] Such qualities of being a chief and an educator, from a chief of a cadre to an army chief, following the chain of command from a platoon to a company, battalion, brigade regiment, corps [pauses], division, corps, army, etc,—each chief is an educator and that is why I said here: Such qualities and virtues can only be promoted by a chief with talent for education and the authority that results from authentic prestige. He had prestige. His missions were brave.

In the first meeting I had with him last month, I began learning all his merits from the time he joined the Sierra Maestra expedition in March 1958. But one must have [rephrases] one must not promote himself with popularity. One must not be saying: That war in Angola, this or that, that we made poor decisions there. He was in Luanda even though he traveled south, he worked here and there. He was involved at the front with all our troops. He was in the thick of things. Comrade Polito was the chief of the southern troops and not Ochoa who passed the time away conducting other activities of which you will later be informed after the Honor Tribunal meets.

Let's continue with the text. I don't plan to stray any more from the text. I don't want to wear out your patience. I should have finished already and I think that with these clarifications, you can orient yourselves.

Above all, the last thing I wanted to say is that we will put an end to this mess in this country. Let it be known—and I am not talking about the military personnel, since we also have small problems, etc—that we will put an end to it here, in this country. Based on what one general does, the rest are judged. Because when a minister, a vice president of the government, who instead of taking care of the omnibus situation, dedicates himself to doing other activities, all of us are judged. That is a real crime. It also hurts us to hear people say: the leaders did this and that, the leaders did this and that [repeats himself]. There are thousands of leaders at all levels who are very good. It is enough for there to be a single one in a province, a municipality, or one at the national level, for all of us to be judged. It is not right for all of us to be judged because of one person. It is not fair. Therefore, this is what I think: No one should feel above anything here, and I think the examples of these past few days are enough to show it. Let us continue with what we had originally planned on this paper.

That is why I was saying—after talking about the matters in the Southern Front, as I digressed from the text—that we believe that the Western Army can feel certain, I mean proud, of having had a chief like Polito prior to going to Angola. Someone who has known how to replace.... [incomplete sentence as heard] Excuse me.

There is another very important matter here that I need to mention. In November 1987, that was on 7 November, I went with Ulises, the chief of the General Staff, to do some voluntary work at Las Cabanas which we were restoring. We also went to El Morro, where the officers and their families are doing volunteer work. It was at

that time when the situation in Angola started to get complicated. We had a wonderful chief there, but he still did not have experience at that strategic operational level. It was a full mission, so I called Ochoa. He was heading a directorate called [does not give name] which has already disappeared. It used to maintain military cooperation relations with foreign countries. I told Ochoa: This is the situation. Comrade Fidel is attending the congress. I think it was the congress in Moscow, or the anniversary celebration of the October Revolution, right? I said: Look, I will consult [incomplete sentence as heard] I have encoded messages ready to send for consultation while you get ready, but first I want to know your opinion. I am doing this to save Polito. Polito had just come back, and he immediately presented himself and said he was ready to return. But I wanted to save Polito from going, so that he does not have to spend so many years outside the country. He has not seen his children grow up. I told Ochoa: Get over there. I sent the encoded message to Fidel, and he agreed. Fidel returned, and again he agreed that Ochoa be sent to support them. Three or 4 days went by and the situation continued. So Fidel said: There is no other solution left but to send Polito. He is the one who knows the situation in Angola better. Ochoa had never been in Angola, other than in transit. Poor Polito ended up going there, after I had sent Ochoa to save him from going. I had forgotten to read this paragraph with this detail.

As I was saying, this Western Army can feel proud of having a chief like Polito, as well as having had someone who has with honor replaced him while he was in Angola. He is another young veteran of the Rebel Army and of the internationalist missions, he belonged to the Che's column. We are talking about Division General [title as heard] Ramon Pardo Guerra, who has already been applauded. [addressing audience] You do not want to applaud him anymore? [addressing Pardo Guerra] Don't you want anymore applause? Let's applaud again. [applause] With his tenacious actions, General Pardo Guerra, or Pardito—you know that regulatory order must not be violated, and you know how a chief must be addressed—but he is Pardito among us, among our family. Pardito, as we all know him, has known how to bind and concentrate the energies of the intelligence of all the chiefs, officers, sergeants, soldiers, civilian and [word indistinct] workers, as well as of the party and EJC [Union of Young Communists] organizations. As a result of this, the Army has continued, and will continue, progressing with firm and sure steps. In other words, Comrade General Pardo Guerra, who was first deputy chief of the Western Army, by decision of the commander in chief, has been designated chief of the Western Army. It was approved yesterday by the the commander in chief and today we make the official presentation. [applause] [Raul Castro tells Pardo to stand up. Camera shows close-up of Pardo Guerra.]

I have the deepest conviction that with the appointment of Div Gen Pardo Guerra as chief of the Western Army, we not only solve expeditiously the bitter and painful situation that forced us to do without Comrade Div Gen Arnaldo Ochoa Sanchez. Ochoa Sanchez's name had been submitted and he had been preparing for a few months to take over the post, as I explained to you, even before we learned about other more grave elements of his behavior which led to his arrest and the initiation of an investigation as it has been reported to the people through the national press today. Not only that but, above all and in addition to that, with Pardo's appointment, we are following a wise and just cadre policy. From all points of view, it tells us to entrust this responsibility to the comrade. He has also deserved it and meets the conditions to exercise it successfully.

I should say—to make the last comment not included in the text—that all this is being broadcast to the entire country. Surely, the ones who were left without a fatherland, those who are in Miami, in Florida, are all listening to what I am saying. They will attempt to carry out an intrigue. Del Pino will make some statements tomorrow. I am going to say something about him here so that you see what he has been doing in these last few days. The basic thing I wanted to say was that for friends and enemies, out of everything I have said here, the official thing is what is published in newspaper GRANMA. This is why it is called the official organ of our party. However, I am not going to back out on anything that I have said here but the official version is what appears officially in the newspaper, what comes out in the newspaper.

On the regrettable and, in many ways, enlightening—because all problems and misfortunes can bring something positive, and we had to see what was more positive, considering it was Ochoa, for this and that, etc. We will see if we should have taken other kinds of measures or have done what we are doing. All the generals who analyzed this matter asked ourselves if we should make a proposal to the commander in chief. We are going to come out better. We analyzed this even on Sunday during a meeting we held after President Solis Palma's plane took off at 1600—I am referring to the Panamanian president. The commander in chief was in his office half an hour later and there I was with a group of comrades.

Gentlemen, we met for 14 hours. Even on Sunday the commander in chief and us were thinking about a formula to see if we could leave him at the FAR without a particular responsibility, for him to stay as my adviser, not in the Army. But what happens is that events begin to unravel and some underlings begin to talk.

This is why I explain all this so you can understand. Some comrades have asked: Was this not known before? Many things get started now. I believe that we have to base ourselves on the essence, first of all, that nobody here believes he can do what he wants to and that he is untouchable, no matter how many merits he may have.

Another matter I want to mention here is that I must wait patiently for the honor tribunal to meet as soon as possible. I have to submit a report; I must leave so the tribunal can deliberate; I must come back to pick up the tribunal's suggestions; and I must take them to the higher levels of the party, government, and state. Naturally, this involves a regular Military Tribunal trial.

I was saying that regarding the unfortunate incident, there are many feelings about the case of Comrade Ochoa. That is why this is a lesson, and I digressed from the text. We will give a report to the honor tribunal. As we have said, the tribunal will first of all consider the nature and the consequences of his behavior which are incompatible with the principles of a communist and with the higher obligations to the nation, people, and party. Above all, it is behavior which is incompatible with the highest ethics of a general of our Revolutionary Armed Forces.

When the recommendations, and the basis for them, of the honor tribunal are made public, there will be greater understanding about the seriousness of the events. Unfortunately for us, there was no other alternative. I must say—well, I have already said it—he was given plenty of warnings, advice. On several occasions I myself gave Comrade Ochoa advice. However, since I am responsible for giving the report on these events to the honor tribunal, I will not stop now and make considerations; the public will be informed. As announced in the MINFAR [Ministry of the FAR] note, which was published today: Ochoa is dismissed! [pounds on the podium once] Let's move on to another subject.

I feel, for having.... [changes thought] Let us compare, find out [corrects himself] Let's not try to find out how it happened, because that will be reported; everything that can be reported will be reported. Someone once said that one should say the truth, and nothing but the truth. Although, it is not always necessary to say the whole truth, which is impossible for obvious reasons. However, we can say enough of it. I say that even to the defendants of glasnost, but let's not get into that subject now. However, I feel obligated to anticipate and share with you the following thought: Men like General Cintra Frias, Polito, heroes of the Republic of Cuba, and Pardo Guerra, whose services to the Revolution and the fatherland have made them worthy of high distinctions and honors, know and never forget that the merits and prestige of a chief, especially in a peoples' army, are, without exception, the synthesis, the synthesis [repeats himself] of the sweat and blood of the men who with courage, stoicism, and discipline make into reality, the riskiest of decisions, and materialize the most audacious orders of the chiefs. Look at these seals, decorations I am wearing—some of them may be because I have individually done something extraordinary. I don't think that is true for any of them. I never work alone. What efforts do these awards represent? Look around for a lower hierarchic echelon, look at any comrade who has a high military order, or an honorific title such as hero of the Republic of Cuba. Each star that is worn on his chest represents thousands of comrades who were under his command—they sweat or bled fulfilling that mission. Here, no one can have individual prestige. Our prestige is owed to the blood and sweat of someone else, and of course to our own efforts, work.

What is this all about? What is this idea of feeling above others? Although apparently... [incomplete sentence as heard] Even if one has populist politics, etc... [incomplete sentence as heard] We reflect, and these are the issues. What happened with Ochoa? You will know it. All this has already passed. What happened with Diocles [Torralba Gonzalez]? I do not know if you will know, but it is probable that you will know. What did he do? That is what I mean. He was dismissed, not substituted. A vice president of the government and a minister of transportation were dismissed. These are the conclusions we should be making. It is logical for the impact to have been so great. I can see it was, because of my military comrades. We mythicize our heroes too much here, and I don't mean our heroes, I mean our comrades, even these other comrades, who are magnificent. Do not think that I'll always be getting an Ochoa out of the nine that are left? I say this, and his case has not been decided yet, but there is no other solution.

As I was saying, a chief and those titles represent the efforts of many. That is why, to completely understand what I was saying—excuse me; I will continue reading the text. However, I feel obligated to anticipate and share with you the following thought: Men like Generals Cintra Frias, Pardo have earned high awards from the Revolution. They know, and they never violate, and they never forget that the merits and prestige of a chief, especially in a peoples' army are, without exception, the synthesis of the sacrifice, sweat, and blood of the men who with courage, stoicism, and discipline turn into reality the riskiest decisions and materialize the most audacious orders. That is why Polito and Pardito, as we call them, are men and chiefs who don't get dizzy with glory. They do not become foolish and think that they are overly gifted. They also do not underestimate the role, which is always decisive, of the people, nor do they scorn the fact that the titles belong to the masses, the collective.

A revolutionary chief, a communist with the responsibilities and duties of a general of our FAR, such as Polo and Pardo, and all those over there and here, also know and do not forget for an instant—like we said in the welcoming speech for the first 300 internationalist soldiers who returned from Angola as part of the Tripartite Agreements—that unsurpassable and anonymous heroism belongs to the mothers, wives, girlfriends, relatives who consciously assume the need to separate themselves from their dearest ones. They also urge them to be loyal and consistent until the moment they give their lives, even if it is in other lands, like it has been for over 13 years in Angola. That is the true and everlasting hero—

our revolutionary people, from whom we have all originated, and to whom we owe our last breath, but in actuality and not by gossiping like Ochoa was doing. Like the FAR directs—and this is not a simple and pretty phrase for the occasion, this came about from critical and serious analysis done since the events in Grenada. [sentence as heard] Like the FAR directs, the principle of being a FAR officer is not a way of life, but rather a sense of life. It includes the determination for sacrificing life with dignity and honor against the enemies of the fatherland. [applause]

As you know, I have closely and with great interest followed the work that has been carried out by this army. Recently, I made an extensive tour. I headed a work group made up of several units and installations of this command. During the tour, we were able to see out in the field, and in close contact with the combatants, the successes achieved. I have been able to personally verify the significant results attained in combat readiness. I saw this especially in the area of multilateral completion [as heard], the preparation level of the General Staffs and troops, the conditioning and [word indistinct] of the military operations theater, the organization and direction of the command, the military discipline and regulatory order, the situation of the materials reserve, and the civil defense. Regarding this last area, it is necessary to point out the achievements attained in daily arrangements [as heard], the reduction of the mobilization periods, and the full combat readiness of the large armored units, reserves, and Territorial Troops Militia [MTT]. To all this, we add the improvement of living and working conditions of the personnel, especially in food, the medical and stomatologic service stations, and the hygienic-epidemiological situation. Furthermore Polito and Pardo, do you want me to say anything else about the army? Is that enough? Ok, let's move on to another subject, and inform everyone.

I also wanted to let you know that [addresses Ulises Rosales del Toro] Ulises, this is not a secret, right? Ok. I also wanted to tell you that in the coming months, as a result of the Tripartite Agreements reached last December, a large number of internationalist combatants will continue returning who will join their respective units. They will reinforce those units not only with their presence but also with the large amount of experience they now have. At the same time, we will receive from Angola, a large number of technology and arms. That is why it is necessary to continue putting into practice the measures foreseen for the receipt, maintenance, and conservation of that equipment—much of which will be given to the MTT and to the defense councils of the various organizations. They may also be sent to the provincial arsenals as reserves for the chiefs of armies.

Great attention must be given, or will be given, to the continuous strengthening of the ties and relations of the work done by the defense councils to ensure the achievement of an adequate preparation of all the territories for the war of all the peoples. It is also necessary to keep in mind that maneuvers will be carried out in this region—this western region which encompasses the territory of the army by the same name. The ninth preparation course for the defense of the main leaders of the party and government will also be held in this territory. Furthermore, next year, the territory will go through various controls through which it will be declared ready for the defense, first stage. This year.... [sentence as heard] Is Espinosa around there? We are talking about [Division General Ramon] Espinosa Martin, chief of the Eastern Army. [addresses Espinosa] When do you expect to get the banner declaring your territory ready for the defense, first stage? [Espinosa replies: The control ends on 12 July.] From 4 to 12 July, thousands of people will participate, including your people, the defense councils, in the control. Sit down Espinosa, thank you.

That is to say that, already, the defense zones, the municipalities, the provinces are ready for the defense. Some in the organization of the central administration may still need to get some things ready. Now, when we say: ready for defense of a territory, we are talking about the Army. His army encompasses six provinces. [addresses unidentified person] I am not giving any secrets away, am I? [unidentified person answers: No.] The Yankees, who know so much, probably did not know that you had six provinces. [laughter] What about (Quinto)? Where is he? The chief of the Central Army, how many provinces does your army have? [unidentified person answers: Five.] That is all right, Ulises. If I have given a secret away, change the limits of the army. [laughter] Each chief comes with his little book. Senen [Casas Regueiro] was chief of the General Staff; he is that minister supervisor [as heard] that was named in transportation. Here, he is being called minister supervisor. [laughter] The chiefs of the General Staff are always coming up with their proposals. When a different one comes along, he changes the limits. One proposes two strategic directorates, then another one proposes three. That is why when the minister makes a mistake, it is the fault of the chiefs of the General Staff. [laughter] It is a joke that undoubtedly exists among the ministers.

As I was saying, I explained that for a territory to be ready for defense, first stage, we are really talking about an army which encompasses several provinces. We hope to be able to present the territory to our commander in chief by 26 July. We actually have until 1990 to get ready for the first stage, although there are some people who want to go too quickly. The ready for defense, second stage level is scheduled for 1995; the third stage for [word indistinct]. This is not a race. That is why we are doing this a little bit at a time. We want every millimeter we advance to be consolidated.

Today we have to be here, and fortunately we are celebrating the 28th anniversary of the Western Army. But we do recall those famous critical meetings we had, beginning with me standing here. I am not a minister that starts by looking at faults of others. A month prior to

March 1986, the differed session of the last party congress had just ended. At that time, we started to look at the problems. Sometimes I see comrades—I am simply referring to ministers—who are waiting to be told what the rectification of errors and negative tendencies is. I also waited for a while. So, what is that? Well, it is to rectify errors and negative tendencies. I thought: Will the Central Committee be able to know what the errors we have are? Will one know, and will they know how to guide us? The guidance has already been given. Fidel has already talked a lot, every day and everywhere, about rectification of errors and negative tendencies. He has taken on the responsibility of talking about it although he is not the one responsible for that. He has filled our lack of knowledge with his characteristic generosity. I think it is the chief himself, the collective itself, that knows best what needs to be done in his organization, department, or wherever to rectify errors and negative tendencies.

I am not talking nonsense, nor improvising words. It was right here, in a full theater like it is now that the 1,200 main chiefs of the FAR were present. I gave a 3-hour speech. I started by analyzing myself, right here. Do you think I liked that? Do you think I am a masochist? [pounds the podium twice] So, what were the results? We took concrete measures. Now, here we are, exactly 3 years later. That meeting lasted 2 days, it was on 4 and 5 March. We have the whole thing filmed on video. I do not know if it would be a good idea to have the chief of the FAR central political directorate, along with the party secretary, Comrade Carlos Aldana who is in charge of ideology, to study the full recording of the meeting we held on 5 March. Then, they should look at what happiness there is 3 years later, comparing it to the last one we held here. Study that, and put on television as well. Of course, avoid the military secrets. Do a comparison. You have the 2 days of meetings, prepare it. Put some segments on television. Show how the work is done. [pounds on podium twice]

Many may think that the situation here in the Armed Forces is about giving orders and commands. Of course, orders need to be given. The single-order principle is followed here. But there is plenty democracy here. If not, let the officers tell you. When I say here I am referring to the Armed Forces. Is it or is it not so? [audience answers: Yes!] Are you saying this because the minister is saying it? [audience answers: No!] [Castro laughs, audience applauds.]

The last subject is important and it will be short. We are not people of slogans. When they were saying yes and no they were joking. They look like primary school students. It could be interpreted this way. Sometimes we teach primary school kids in such a way that when one goes and says such and such, they all answer yes or no. Nobody ever disagrees. This is what happened to you now.

Well, this can be understood with children, with small children. But for example, speaking of the Armed Forces... [changes thought] We are also including our glorious Youth Labor Army [EJT]. It also received strong blows that 5 March. Its chief did. Where is he? [Castro turns to someone near him] Did he arrive? I believe he was in Guantanamo. [words indistinct from unidentified person near Castro] He wasn't able to get here. I told the chief, the chief of staff, and the chief of the political section: The three of you stand up. I asked: What period of time do you need? They answered: Such and such. I said: You must solve the problems during that period of time, bring your resignation, or I will dismiss you. Nobody had to be dismissed. They have made a triple leap. That's the way it was. Many of you participated. Almost all of you participated in that meeting. Wasn't that so? It was difficult, it was difficult [repeats]. I was standing here and he was there. I was there.

To do this, one has to have moral principles and begin to analyze oneself and be self-critical. It yielded results. It has brought results in everything. How happy was I on 4 March, on last 4 and 5 March here. It was just the opposite of the bitterness of that 5 March.

Another thing, that EJT.... [changes thought] I recently toured several of their camps. We get 7 out of each communist youth that joins the regular troops but we get 14 out of each communist youth that joins the EJT [sentence as heard]. To be a communist young person in the EJT.... [changes thought]

They have a movement that is called sweating with the soldier. Officers of all levels, including the chief of the army who is close to 60.... [changes thought] Of course, he words less, joins in the sweating with the soldier movement. According to their age and rank, they carry out physical tasks with soldiers. Even if he is not very productive, the chief of the EJT is there, he works and fulfills his quota according to his age. Another very good thing about the youths is.... [changes thought] To be a communist youth in the Union of Young Communists is not to have an identification card in the pocket. Each communist youth has to show what he is. Some of the battalions I visited—I do not want to give you exact figures—is the Army chief of staff here? Is Hernandez, chief of the political section of the EJT, here? At the battalion I visited there in Lugareno, each communist young man cut 40 more arrobas of sugarcane than the rest. What was the national average? [unidentified speaker says: In the last harvest season it was 44 arrobas and 85 in the 3-year period. This is the number of arrobas over the amount cut by the rest of the young sugarcane cutters] Over. As a communist young person, I would cut this plus a little over or under the average of the battalion. This is something that is approved of. If you don't want to be a communist, return your identification card.

Ultimately, I also think about this. Even if I am accused of dismissing some general friend of mine....[incomplete sentence as heard] Let me not continue so that I do not complicate this further. [audience laughs]

Not all of those who are in the party itself are true communists, and not all of those who are outside the party are not communists. [ni son todos los que estan ni estan todos los que son; play on words]. Despite this, we have a great party. Is this not so? [audience says: Yes. applauds]

Well comrades, I am going to finish reading this quickly. There will be time to talk about these things when the facts are gathered better, in a more organized manner.

The television viewers at least have the advantage of turning off the television and going to bed. You, unfortunately, because you must be courteous cannot do that. So let's finish this.

I was telling you that the last subject, and do pay attention—and, you television viewers who are not bored yet, also pay attention—because this is the international subject. I notice that the climate is getting warmer. Several things took place simultaneously. The speech—which we will mention here later—of 20 May, or 22 May, with the stateless people in Washington, defined the policy with Cuba. Later, the policy with Poland, and then with the socialist countries was defined. I notice that Mr Bush, and his closest collaborators, are intoxicated, and trying to set the rules for everyone, the whole world, the planet in its entirety—not the western world, because they even want to set the rules for the socialist world. As a last subject, I would like to take advantage of this meeting to make some observations about the current international situation, which seems to be rising again in the area of ideas, at the same time that this area is becoming more complex. While in other scenarios a spirit of negotiation and understanding seems to prevail—especially between the Soviet Union and the United States—we perceive at this very moment, and during these past few months, clear signals telling us we cannot become the least careless with our efforts in the continuation of the consolidation of our defense.

I must recall and (?synthesize) that the mandate of the aggressive Reagan administration has ended. A logical waiting period followed to see what the future actions of the government team, headed by Bush, would be. It was hoped that, for several reasons and especially because of the failure of 30 years of a policy of force against Cuba, he would have taken a more pragmatic and realistic approach toward us than that of his predecessor in the White House. Furthermore, some political sector representatives in Washington, in one way or another, expressed their interest for an exchange which would favor an improvement of bilateral relations between the two countries. Nevertheless, given the experience that we have already accumulated during 3 decades of confrontations, we always listen with some reservation to those reports. We also follow with careful attention the development of the events and the rearrangement of the new governing team. We do this, while we are in the midst, of a complex international situation, even within the socialist community, like our press has kept us informed.

Today we must accept the reality that during the past few months, the United States has made statements and taken certain actions, which obviously respond to the deliberate goal of provoking an artificial [word indistinct] of the situation in the bilateral area, and creating the conditions for the emergence of friction and tension with our country.

Above all, the progressive steps which have been taken in Washington, with the open support of the Bush administration, to take forward the plans for the illegal and immoral anti-Cuban television station need to be noted. This constitutes an aggressive act and an attack against our country's sovereignty which will require an appropriate response and, consequently, will bring increased tensions.

Recently, on the occasion of 20 May, a date that evokes the ignominious establishment of the Yankee neocolony in Cuba in 1902, the new U.S. President made—2 days after that date—his first public statements about Cuba in front of an audience composed of 230 stupefied counterrevolutionary fauna hustlers in the White House.

In a noticeable aggressive and arrogant tone, the U.S. President... [incomplete sentence as heard] His first public statements against Cuba, in a noticeable aggressive and arrogant tone, which of course, found a firm rejection from the part of our people who supported the points presented in a commentary that appeared in the official organ shortly after. [sentence as heard]

Moreover, during the strategic exercise called Global Shield-99 [corrects himself] 89—in addition to publishing it in the military press, we published this information in GRANMA for the first time—held between 1 and 26 May—they periodically conduct exercises on the total nuclear war—it was very indicative that, while in a general sense, the mobilization of their forces and equipment world-wide was less than during previous years—including those planned for the strategic nuclear attack against the Soviet Union—the (?vicious) action of the U.S. against Cuba, exactly on 25 May of this year, was much more intense and on a larger scale than on previous occasions. Its main goal was to confirm the capability of its B-53 strategic bombers to conduct conventional air attacks on us.

At the same time the B-53 bombers were coming to the western region and they, the B-52s, were approaching western waters—the B-52 that were coming from various U.S. bases—their multi-purpose fighters flew out of Florida—where around 280 of the most modern planes are stationed—sometimes several dozen of them, in

squadrons, have been exercising—this is a difficult exercise—flying at low and very low altitudes, close to the sea, near our territory, in an attempt to evade our radar locating field. They were practicing how they can get close without us detecting them on time.

One of those aircraft crashed north of Matanzas. A multipurpose fighter was flying very low—this is very dangerous and has to be done by a squadron composed of a few planes.

It crashed in Matanzas, but its place is in international waters. It is a shame that the American pilot should have died. The mother and the relatives of that pilot could even say to Mr Bush: If you weren't harassing the Cubans, my son would be alive. I must say that we truly regret it.

However, if that wasn't enough, there is a counterrevolutionary radio broadcast from Miami. It is one of those worms with which people here sometimes entertain themselves by listening to it. Later, these people, without realizing it, begin repeating the very same thing they are hearing from over there: Have glasnost, like the Soviet Union is doing, and perestroyka, hold, what do you call that? Hold a plebiscite. Some people start repeating that; some dummies start repeating it without realizing it. Here, we can have the two types of war: ideological divergence which is operating, and this other one. But we can talk about that another time. As I was saying, if that wasn't enough, the counterrevolutionary radio station from Miami is an unusual and repugnant action. That is the station I was talking about a moment ago. It turns out that [passage indistinct] surprising against Cuba in which, this time, an increased number of B-52s participated, as well as other types of planes. According to this worm radio station, it turns out that during the simulated attack against Cuba, the Del Pino traitor, was aboard one of the U.S. aircraft carriers at the invitation of his sponsors. He was dressed in uniform with the rank of a general, certainly a general of the U.S. Air Force. No further comment is necessary other than what I have here. [passage indistinct] of U.S. services, transformed himself, with the least of scruples, into a so-called political dissident. He had started with small moral problems, with vanity, and between corruption and treason there is a fine line which can be easily crossed. After it is crossed, they are obligated to turn into puppets of those who pay them. Why do I say this? The current king of the U.S. special services transforms himself, with the least of scruples, from a so-called political dissident into an advisor of the destruction and death practices of the enemy against the land and the people where he was born. He does this without even keeping in mind that his mother, and some of his children live here, one of whom, as a matter of fact, is a military transport pilot in the Air Force. So we were faced with a problem. We said: Here is the young man, what are we going to do? Are we going to remove him because of distrust? [Words indistinct] we even consulted with Fidel, and we all agreed that the boy is good. There could be influence from the father, this and that. There you have it. A son of Del Pino is a military transport pilot in the Air Force. The other is a transportation pilot, and his mother lives here, some of his children live here. But, there he is showing off. He may have disagreements with us, he can ask for our heads, whatever he wants. But he has to have...[corrects himself] He must not have anything inside—to not say something terrible on television, although it can be said in a meeting here and there. [laughter] He must not have anything inside to be able to advise from an aircraft carrier—it must have certainly been the command post of the operation—a massive strike against us. If he does not love the other Cubans, fine. But his mother, and several of his children live here. This is something that had not been said before: A son of Del Pino is a military transport pilot and he does not have a policeman or any security official watching him from behind. He flies like everyone else.

That is how embarrassing and vile traitors and Del Pino are. Naturally, the parents of the children are responsible—the parents, who seem to fall into the sickly self-worship of their cheap advisor.

In a more general area, we have exact data which show that exercises and maneuvers have been carried out, aerial ones especially, in the vicinity of our country. We have been noticing that in the last few months, there has been a noticeable increase in the number of units participating, the frequency of flights, the proximity to our territory, and night combat training. All this has happened in the western strategic directorate of our country which defends this army. We could cite other events that are forming what already resembles escalated provocations. On 11 June, just the other day in the midst of this whole situation, there was an unusual sighting of a submarine—going under water, of course—which we forced to withdraw. It was sighted only 20 km southwest of the sensitive region of Cienfuegos. It was in our domestic waters. It was forced to withdraw, because we sent an antisubmarine ship on top of it and it was forced to leave. Our ship was on top, and the submarine on the bottom, with sonars and all that which can be detected.

The following day, apparently the same submarine was detected again at a farther distance from our coasts.

Another example of the growing imperial hostility against Cuba has been shown regarding the naval base which they maintain against the will of our people in Guantanamo. Since April we have received protest notes from the U.S. Government, which I understand have not been answered yet. My words can serve as anticipation for the gentlemen of the SINA. The SINA is the U.S. Interest Section in Cuba. Since April, we have received protest notes from the U.S. Government which includes accusations of supposed infiltrations of Cuban soldiers with the purpose of exploring the interior of the base. There were three notes, specifically. There are accusations of unidentified lights and explosions—that is what they say—explosions that can be felt. They are probably

explosions for the preparation of the military operational theater at a certain distance from the base, etc. The most recent note regarding our use of reflectors capable of blinding the U.S. plane pilots during their landings. In the text of the notes, one can see an insolent tone, a cheap bullying tone, which may still intimidate some people in this world, but here in Cuba, it just gives us reason to give them the raspberry. [applause] If you want, we will even give it a last name: a diplomatic raspberry. [laughter] It is needless to say that, at all times, we have been certain that these accusations are totally unfounded. We are not just saying it, we actually asked if something happened and we were told: no. We carry out extensive investigations. Often, we take a long time in answering their notes. A ministerial commission goes to the border, there, where are border brigade is located. They study it. They come back with maps, photographs, signed statements. We are not simply saying no. It is needless to say that, at all times, these accusations are totally unfounded. Each one of them has been fully investigated. Each one of them are lies and false from head to toe.

What we can say is that, along with the series of these notes whose language do not hide [words indistinct], we have information that in recent times, unusual situations have occurred in the base, on their side of it. There have been arguments, inappropriate actions by the personnel of that base, and by the guards—which shows a breakdown in discipline in that Yankee installation. Furthermore—although I think this has already been said by Comrade journalist Soledad Cruz, of JUVENTUD magazine, in an article, a general report—soon, at the eastern sector of the border brigade by the Yankee base, the first female company will serve. We say this so that the Yankee guards will know it. [applause]

Cuban journalists who want to, and some foreign friend journalists, according to their possibilities, can visit our military area, see the protest notes and investigations, get on an observation post. We are even taking foreign tourists there to the observation post, which has nothing secret about it. You go in through a tunnel, then you go up, and look at the whole base. There are different hours for the foreign tourists. Europeans are going there for the first time. It occurred to me one day when I was touring with the party secretary. I asked him: Listen, this is not a secret. What do you think if we try and bring foreign tourists here? It is very pleasant to do. You can go there. Go to the observation post. You enter through a tunnel, then you go up. Female journalists should go, but not to interview the female company. The women interview the male companies and the men interview the female company. They can freely go there. Let's see what happens. We decided to put a female company there, because the male guards are surprised to see women guarding a sector—the towers which guard the border area.

Comrades, it is important to emphasize—something which of course is obvious to any of you—that the increase of hostilities toward Cuba is closely linked to the aggressive ideological campaign carried out by the U.S. government circles in accordance with the triumphalist perspective, arrogance, and the gall with which they approach the complex processes that are taking place in most socialist countries. The ideologues of the imperialist west interpret these processes as the bankruptcy of the socialist system at a world-wide scale. In several recent public speeches of President Bush, and his closes collaborators and advisors, they have insisted on the idea that socialism is behind the times. They say this system will not make it to the next century. You tell me what will we do if this does not make it to the next century? That is something very simple, any elementary school child knows the answer to that.

We can do it; we can make our own socialism. The socialism the people of Cuba want [applause] based on the general and fundamental principles of Marxism-Leninism and applying them with creativity according to our specific circumstances and going back to the source of our roots of those who taught us to think, beginning with the illustrious Father Felix Varela. In addition, we should be willing to go through the same thing that happened in the famous Atlantis legend. The situation is not as serious as this but we should be willing to go through the same thing that happened in the Atlantis legend.

I have no right to speak on behalf of others. I speak here on behalf of my wife, my children, and myself. I do not speak on behalf of my grandchildren because they have no opinion yet, although they talk quite a bit and bother us quite a bit during our family conversations. It is preferable for this island to sink to the bottom of the Atlantic before having the capitalist system prevail here again. [standing ovation] Gentlemen, those who do not want our socialism can ask permission and go to the United States, but tell Bush to grant you visas. All those who want to leave here, leave, [applause] leave [repeats]. It is very simple. Have them give you visas. We are almost 88 Cubans per square kilometer, so let them leave.

There might be someone who would not to go as far back and—with the greatest respect, one of the principles we defend is that each person can go where he wants to—maybe someone can go to Hungary, maybe he can go to Poland. I am a close friend of General Wojciech Jaruzelski, secretary general of the Polish United Workers' Party. We admire him. He has done as much as he can. Someone else could like the reforms in China and can go to China, if the Chinese Government grants him a visa. Of course, those who refuse to think with their heads and believe that we are still going to copy after having copied the communists of the world for 70 years, can go to, can go to [repeats, pauses] Armenia.

Anyone can leave. There is freedom here, even freedom of speech—although many do not believe it. I am referring to the press. I am speaking here. This is why I said the official version is what it is published in GRANMA.

[laughter] I can speak here and blunder. You may say, easy for him to say. This is Fidel's brother, this is the second secretary, and he can talk. I speak up regardless of being the second secretary, Fidel's brother, or Fidel's friend. I speak at the right time, place, and manner whenever I have to speak and express my opinion. This doesn't mean that now everyone is going to speak here. Consider the fact that the entire audience I have here is composed of military people. Discipline is going to be broken in the Western Army [chuckles]. What I mean is that there is a time, a place, and a way to express what one thinks.

The military members, the ones from FAR and MININT, can have views on all these matters—views. But when an order is given [pounds on the podium] one has to carry it out although one may not agree with it. If not, let them leave the FAR and MININT. [applause]

We will hold a meeting with the main MININT and FAR chiefs on the subject at the appropriate time because of all this mess. It will be a small one. We can meet here or in a smaller theater. We can tape the group discussion and show it to all MININT combatants and all FAR officers. You can have a view and express it at the right time, place, and manner. In the proper place, at the right time, and in the right way. But military people need to fulfill their orders [pounds on the podium].

I was thinking a while ago about how many speculations some Western news agencies will come up with and what the Miami armchair strategists will say. They are going to say that there is great political division; first Diocles, now Ochoa, etc. Let them keep talking garbage. At least they entertain themselves in this way.

So, we will have a meeting in the next few days to talk about these things. It is not that we are ordering it. It is not that I am standing here and am giving orders. We will think about it and discuss it. I am saying this more for the civilian comrades and for—not those beautiful civilian reporters who are sitting there but—the civilian population watching us over the television, those who have had the patience of bearing with us for over 45 minutes [words indistinct].

I think it is better for us to definitely finish. I (?didn't finish my idea) but I don't want for this to go on for too long.

We were talking about the matter of those who may want to leave, about freedom, etc. Everyone here who wants to leave, leaves, but not in a little boat because sharks are going to eat them. Whoever wants to leave should find some friends. They are talking so much about democracy. They have very simple slogans: democracy, free enterprise, and elections. But democracies are not the way they believe they are. Democracies, the ones we all know about—there are different kinds—these burgeois democracies known by all of us use very simple slogans and that's their world.

I don't know. I didn't want to be disrespectful. There is still time to tell our neighbors of the north that they still have time to rectify the situation. The fundamental objective—I clarify it more forcefully because I did not read the entire text continuously—the fundamental objective of this third point, in addition to informing you, our people... [changes thought]

Actually, there has always been a little something but we were not.... [rephrases] It has been a long time since there have been provocations on their part out of Guantanamo Base. They were sporadic. This has not happened for awhile. I am referring to the watching posts. There are times when they begin to carry out provocations. In past years, they have made provocations tens of thousands of times. We have everything registered since our unit was created there and the appropriate checks were established.

The fundamental reason for bringing this up is that in addition to alerting our people, so that we are not distracted by secondary things, and alerting our Armed Forces about this situation, we tell Mr Bush, President of the United States, and his advisers that there is still time to stop this small escalation. Considering the experience we have of being in the same situation for 30 years, as I said before, we know where it is going to lead.

This is why I spoke to you and the Western Army about this. This is Ochoa's day because his name came up in the press and will continue to come up when the more expanded report is made. I also speak about this international matter, especially here in the Caribbean area.

I still have three short pages to go. Are you able to bear it? [audience answers: Yes] Is this a true yes? [audience answers: Yes; applauds] Now I applaud you.

Well, I do not know where I interrupted this. [mumbles] The arrogance and the gall.... [leaves sentence unfinished] I already talked about a bankruptcy of the socialist system. Didn't I?

In several public statements made recently by Bush and his closest collaborators and advisers, they have insisted in the idea that the times of socialism have passed. They have said that this system will not get to the next century—I believe this is where I was—while they assure that the fundamental postulates of capitalism are opening their way in the socialist community, while they assure that the fundamental postulates—I repeat—of capitalism are opening their way in the socialist community.

This one speaking here is a pro-Soviet until the day he dies, no matter what happens. Now I see that there are so many people asking for their own nationality and even their separation that I am going to end up being pro-Russian, and I stay there. The great Russian people, the one that helped to develop all of them, the one that shed more blood than all the others, that led a leader during

the II World War—who was Georgian by the way—to make the first toast in a banquet after the victory of the great war of the fatherland to say: To the big brother, to the Russian people! [applause]

Well, those who know history know that that toast was made by Stalin. Sometimes you can talk about Stalin and other times you don't. Sometimes he is put up and other times he is taken down. Khrushchev is taken out of history. This should not happen.

The most sacred thing we have is our history. Ours is short. In a few years we will mark a millenium, half a millenium [corrects himself] since there is at least something written. Our history is sacred for us. It is our symbol. I believe... [rephrases] This is the same thing I told you. From Father Varela, or from Atuey until Fidel, to define it better [applause] from Fidel until Atuey—you didn't let me finish to define it better—going through Father Felix Varela, Jose Antonio Saco, and very especially our Jose Marti who was also the first one to give us the anti-imperialist beginnings. We have to free ourselves from all that.

We will move ahead, we will try this and that; and if we fail, we will correct it. We will make our socialism, without much diplomacy or very pompous words. We will make a socialism the Cuban people feel like having. [applause] I want what I am saying be to interpreted, especially for those who are present...[rephrases] for those who are not present. I started out saying that I am pro-Soviet, and will be so until I die. If the problems with the nationalities continue, well, I will say I am pro-Russian. I feel profound admiration, just like Fidel, for Comrade Sergeyevich Gorbachev. I had the honor of meeting him during a short vacation with my family to the Caucasus in December or January 1977. In [word indistinct] when he was secretary. I have pictures with him, and with Raiza, from that time. He is only 3 months older than I. I was born on 3 June—now you found out I am 58 years old—and he was born on 5 March of the same year, if I recall correctly. He was very [word indistinct] during his visit here. I truly mean it when I say that I am a pro-Soviet, and I will be one until I die. Like Fidel told and taught us, on more than one occasion, we can never bite the hand that helped us in the most difficult times. We will never be ungrateful. They can do whatever they want, we will do whatever we want. We must negotiate like that despite the guarantees with which we are working. But they are going through a process, which in my personal opinion, they needed to go through. It was necessary; but how they do it is their problem. How we do ours is our problem. How the Polish do it is their problem. How Bush and the democracies do it...[addressing audience] What do they call that democracy? [indistinct response] representative democracy. That's fine. We see what is happening in Venezuela, (?Africa), in...[rephrases] in Argentina, in several places. The world of the poor is exploding. In the case of Latin America it is exploding because of the burden of debt. What democracy is that, gentlemen? I say: they are democracies. Fine, they're good relations [word indistinct]. What I mean is what kind of democracy do they have, everyone has some kind of democracy. However, considering all the problems we have, compare yourselves with the rest of the Third World countries.

There are still foolish people around who make me want to eat my liver. They criticize, they say: If we are going to be a medical power, what does the family doctor do? I said it the other day in a meeting. It was a meeting with Ochoa, the first one I had, which lasted 3 hours. Ulises was there, as well as the [word indistinct] chief, general, and Colome in front. I said: I would like to see those foolish people going to a neighborhood in Sierra Maestra, El Cauto, Second Front, the mountains of Pinar del Rio, or to a Havana neighborhood. Let a foolish person meet with the neighbors and tell them that the family doctor has to be done away with, let's see if he isn't left in his underwear! [laughter] [Word indistinct] coffee and milk, but it is not that, it is an ideological matter. It is also a matter....[shifts thought] We were analyzing a few weeks back, as a matter of fact Colome and the other comrades were there, how they congregate against the figure of our commander in chief, this is being done more than ever. I said to Colome—the first vice minister, of the three first vice ministers who are here—I said: Why don't they invent all those things against you? Why don't they say those things against you? Naturally, they know against whom they are doing it. Our living symbol, as a human being with his defects and the defects we all have, some more than others, the most important symbol we have is called Fidel Castro! [pounds on podium once]. [audience applauses repeatedly and chants: Fidel, Fidel!]

On behalf of Fidel, thank you very much for the applause you have given him. I am stating a truism because he is the same to you as he is to me. As I say among ourselves, even though I have no scientific precision... [changes thought]

One day there was a discussion with a charlatan. I sent for him and I said: Listen, Fidel is our father. [pounds on podium three times] I don't know what you're talking about, whether or not the commander in chief said this. I think; I can reason. He is accessible. I can say: Look, Commander, this is what I think. We can discuss things. But some half-wit, a liar who says garbage... [icomplete sentence as heard] I could not... [incomplete sentence as heard] I had to call him in here. I calmed down. I drank a cup of tea and I waited for him.

I began to talk to him and I said: Listen, if Fidel Castro had not been born, if Fidel Castro... [changes thought] Let the philosophers of any such theory, which we have been studying for 70 years, come to me. I think of those boys who studied these things and got a degree in a year. They would have to study 5 years in a university for a

language. [pounds the table] All these things are lies. They are not worth anything. None of these things are any good! I'm also now a philosopher. [laughter] We can all be philosophers.

I told him: Look, if Fidel Castro had not been born, neither you nor I would be sitting here because he produced what Che called the social cataclysm. A true revolution was produced from this social cataclysm.

I've know him for as long as I can remember. I am not a yes man [preceding two words in English]. I would not be worthy if I was a yes man either with my older brother or with him. In this case, the eldest is Ramon. He is a magnificent worker, a Hero of the Republic of Cuba, and he was always my second father when I was a student in primary school, in a Jesuit school in Santiago de Cuba.

I told him I wanted to call a few people, not from the armed forces—although there could be, they are human—above all some of those who are philosophizing out there. I call attention to this because sometimes people copy others and what I'm saying here [pounds table] is a prophylaxis, an indirect method, but not for all of you. It is for all of you who have had the patience and heroism to listen to me for these nearly two hours. One must think and be combative. [pounds table] A little joke is ok. I like jokes. I'm like you. I agree that no one should be made into a myth, not even the comrades who have fallen because—good or bad—I think of the dead just as I thought of them when they were living.

There is a bridge, a bridge [repeats himself] in Villa Clara, the city of Villa Clara, at the outskirts of the city. Many of you may be familiar with it. There is not much room there when you say farewell at a flight [corrects himself] at a funeral. I think the bridge is close to the cemetery entrance, right? I've never been there. The funeral procession stops there. Someone gets up there and you know what they say about the dead. The people, with the wisdom of the people, the neighbors, workers, peasants, call it the Bridge of the Good because of all they see and hear there.

This is similar to when one gets a medal in Cuba. This is a custom because sometimes we do things without reviewing them and we don't even stop to think if this is rational. We give a speech to the poor man who is being decorated, whether he is a foreigner or not.

One day, a member of the Politburo, a very good friend—I think you can't place him—was asked to say a few words at a ceremony awarding a medal to another Politburo member. He spoke for 15 minutes. I said: Listen, write that down because when you die, I'm going to the cemetery and I'm going to read the same thing you just said. [laughter]

Well, I've think we've talked enough of this, right? We've talked enough of this.

There are only a few more small topics here and they are only three pages long. May I? [audience answers: "Yes."]

That "yes" is weaker. [laughter] May I continue or not! [audience loudly answers: "Yes!"] Thank you.

Mr Bush said that communism will not make it to the next century, that it's obsolete. He did not prepare for his speech or ask for the statistics and when one rereads it here [pounds twice on the table], one becomes indignant. That's why I say to you, what are we going to do if we do not make it to the next century, which is right around the corner? That dangerous rhetoric was especially evident during the months of April and May in the speeches that Bush gave in Detroit, Michigan, which I referred to earlier. That speech, on 17 April of this year, was a short speech. He concentrated on encouraging the anti-socialist forces in Poland. He was outlining the policy for Poland.

His speeches—I am going to try and pronounce it correctly; like Fidel does—in College Station [preceding two words in English]... [incomplete sentence as heard] It is written as College Station [pronounces the English name in Spanish] and it is in Texas which I think is another university. His speech of 20 May, 20 or more days later, was devoted to the socialist camp. He was outlining his guidelines. He acts like a Russian czar outlining policy. The other speech was on Poland. This one was on the socialist camp as a whole.

As I said earlier, our speech was on 20 May. Now, when he goes to Europe, the speeches come more frequently. Attention must be paid to all this. Especially, when this is carried in the press, in more order. All the things I have said here, and what the party decides, and what will be official will be carried. However, all these things are very important. There are a lot of details, details, and details.

The last speech he gave, the one after the previous ones I mentioned, was on the 40th anniversary of the NATO [preceding word in English] Charter, in other words the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Also during those speeches, the U.S. President made clear his intentions to apply...[rephrases] During his speeches in the FRG, in his last trip for the NATO 40th anniversary, Mr Bush made clear the intentions of applying a hostile policy toward Cuba and toward the brother and heroic German Democratic Republic. He is trying to interfere in their internal affairs—tear down the wall, etc. Bush should be told to tear down the wall that does not allow his friends from here, in Cuba, to go to the United States—he should permit free immigration. You are right, how can I think that! However, the important thing about this is that [words indistinct] against the GDR. I must add, also with regard to Cuba, another important fact.

On 24 May, 2 days after the speech by Bush, the U.S. representative from Florida presented a draft resolution, supported by two anti-Cuban organizations, to the committee of foreign relations. The resolution requests that

the details be released of the so-called Kennedy-Khruschev pact regarding the missile crisis of October 1962, and it urges the Senate to refuse to ratify [as heard] the agreements in that proposal. The resolution, as difficult as it may seem to believe, can have...[rephrases] It is difficult to believe that such an idea can be in the head of a U.S. legislator, who we can assume to be at least cultured. It is difficult to believe that he urges [word indistinct] presumed international laws to overthrow the revolution, the Cuban revolution, and to establish a representative democracy, very much in accordance with the interests of imperialism. This is not the first time in the United States that voices are heard which demand that those treaties be ignored. That is normally the case. If not, they look for it every time a new administration arrives, and they say something about it to see what the reaction is. They want to see if the treaty is fulfilled or not. Although, this time...[rephrases] this is not the first time—I correct myself—in the United States that voices are heard which demand that those treaties be ignored, within the the current context of a hardening of U.S. policy toward Cuba. We must pay careful and close attention to the development of future events. Will we have the luck of this imperial revisionism which will set back in history what some barbarians understand as new mentality in the circles of U.S. power? That is the new term that has been heard lately.

These are the brief considerations that I have wanted to share with you, and which unfortunately have taken much longer than necessary because of my departure from the official text. [Words indistinct] that I have wanted to share with you and with our people, has the purpose of reiterating once again,how important it is for us to strengthen our defensive capacity. It is especially important considering the invincible force our people are when organized, armed, and ready to defend the revolution at any price. The ideas of a socialist community in crisis, weak, not united, and in revision can make the most reactionary and adventurous forces of imperialism drown in its aggression against this invincible bastion of socialism that Cuba represents in this area of the world—in the new world. So that in the area of ideas, as well as in the military area, the enemy always receives firm responses from our FAR, and from this nation—which has proclaimed in more than one occasion the unbreakable decision to live with its revolution or die with it—it is important, above all, that we be strong, solid, and invulnerable in the ecological, ideological, and moral order. This is the spartan ethic of our nation. It is a nation that is worthy of its tradition of struggle and is rebellious, creative, solidaristic, austere, and generous. It has been the revolutionary stubborness of our nation—led with wisdom and courage by Comrade Fidel which has been founded on unity, patriotism, and loyalty to the universal truths of Marxism-Leninism—that has, in sum, been our ideology and the moral of our combatants. It has been what has built socialism in the very noses of the arrogant Yankee empire, like Fidel told them when he proclaimed socialism on 16 April 1961 during the burial of the victims of the bombing.

They do not forgive us for having a socialist revolution right in front of their noses. Our ideology and our moral of fighting people for the welfare and dignity of the Cuban people—that is what we fight for! We will have disagreements. They are not disagreements over class interests. Our disagreements will be on how we can fulfill all our tasks, how we can advance more, how we need to work more with all these objective economic problems, and how we must get rid of all the subjective problems. As I constantly repeat to the Politburo comrades, I like the time of the skinny cows. When you have dollars, go ahead and buy. When you do not have dollars, you must invent and produce here; that is what is being done. The skinny cows are not that bad. Besides, this is like what a Jewish rabbi taught me in Santiago de Cuba several years ago, at the Dolores School. He said: God squeezes but does not drown. So, skinny cows are good. They make us think. In other words, our moral of fighting people for the welfare and dignity of our people—which is what we have fought for, as well as the internationalists—is what has made our resistance possible. It is all of that which I have enumerated—and I have interrupted myself twice—it is all that which has made possible our resistance, work, and certainty in our victory throughout all these 30 years. Every time there is problem, there is always someone lazy. However, since they cannot say they are lazy, they begin to criticize, look for excuses. This is not to say that there are no problems to criticize. But, as I said, it must be done at the right place, time, and manner.

I ask you in this case [word indistinct] these words were written. You saved yourselves, since I do not have any energy left now. [laughter] I was saying this to the military personnel. However, I think these words were written prior to that for you, but they also apply to you, everyone. We are all a family, military and civilian, within the concept of the war of all the peoples. We close ranks with the PCC and under the enlightened leadership of Fidel in perfecting our socialism, which I mentioned earlier, with its roots in the anti-imperialist ideas of Marti, in the unselfish struggle of our working class, and in the height reached at the Moncada. We are descendants from the healthy and vigorous trunk of our Revolution. The malignant cells of corruption and dishonesty, which are strange and foreign to the history, our history, to the example and experience of our process, will be removed from the heart of our society. Any vicious practice, tolerance, decision, or lack of control that favors or coexists with the abuse of power, banality, and prepotency will be removed. I am not just saying this by coincidence. I am saying this so that a few people can draw their own conclusions, and I say a few because our people are tremendous.

In this very room, after having returned from a maneuver in Camaguey, I was appointed by the party to speak on 16 August 1985. I think that was the 60th anniversary of the founding of the first communist party. Is that right? Right here, in concluding—this was when Blas Roca was still alive; he was sick, but still alive—I pointed

out, after a brief analysis, the kind of people we have, the kind of party and commander in chief we have. But let this be a warning. [pounds three times on podium] This mess will end right here. [pounds on podium once] When I say this mess, I am not talking about the multitudes. The greater the responsibility of a leader—whether he is the leader of a factory, farm, province, or a leader at the national level—the more pure, clean his behavior must be. It is by him that the people judge the rest of the leaders. [applause]

There are people here who think they are untouchable, but do not think they are great chiefs. There are some dummies around who think that the guidelines that are set do not apply to them, but to every one else. That must end. The people are very right to criticize things. I bitterly recall August of last year, we were surprised when the buses disappeared here. I wonder what party Diocles Torralba was attending at that moment. That was last year. Fidel, the executive committee, and the Council of Minister insisted...[incomplete sentence as heard] The number of buses were decreasing again, but then they increased again, a little more. I would also like to know where Diocles Torralba was during those last few months of last year. At that time, all the ports were overflowing with merchandise. There was a shortage of rice in a warehouse, but the rice was actually at the ports. What was he doing? We know what he was doing. How did he spend his time? When you degrade yourself to that level, you begin by ceasing to be a revolutionary.

On top of that, if one day you wake up and don't have tooth paste... [incomplete sentence as heard] I did have it and Fidel is always saying that he who lives in a good home doesn't keep himself busy like those people that live in those neighborhoods. [addressing audience] What are those called? [indistinct answer] Yes, those kinds of neighborhoods. He who lives in a good home does not occupy himself with those things. One day you wake up and do not have tooth paste, you have to end up using your finger with soap, or who knows what. Then, to go out, take the bus, and go to work is a heroic act. Gentlemen! It is true that objective factors exist, but only by reducing at least the subjective factors, and by working [pounds podium three times] on these problems. Many of these problems can be solved. Despite these problems, we live better than any other country in the Third World. However, we should not be satisfied with just that, because the difference among Third World countries is huge. We must continue moving ahead—we can live. Furthermore, it is a matter of pride that we can live under the harassment of the neighbors I talked to you about a few moments ago.

I am more concerned with the return of the American base, and freely, like they will have to return it. We will resolve this, but not in a military way. They will have to return it! Or, isn't there distension in this world? It is more beneficial for them to have relations with us—commercial—and to eliminate all those foolish things! The foolish things are a whole series of laws, agreements, resolutions, etc from different administrations; it would require a lot of time to undo that mess. I would be concerned if the community would come because cheap things are still killing us. [sentence as heard] However, we must still solve some problems here. What the United States is doing now, the harassment I was talking to you about, personally, I like it, as minister of the FAR. We are better prepared to resist this kind of harassment than the other kind, which is nothing more than internal corruption which is being carried out in several areas. The [word indistinct] theories, who was security advisor to Carter, have given some results. Now, he has announced a new book that says communism is finished.

Talking about these subjects, I was saying that we should definitely establish and consolidate, among ourselves, the principle and the culture of opportune criticism. Opportune criticism should be over the slightest and even most insignificant manifestation of indiscipline, or violation, of the administration's norms, the management of the resources, or the material means that the people have entrusted to the officials, cadres, civilians, chiefs, military, and officers. Here, as a matter of fact, we do not have many of these kinds of problems, despite what we are talking about. [Words indistinct] within the FAR, this matter about the note on Ochoa. Let us prevent an undisciplined—and these are very important ideas—let us prevent an undisciplined [repeats himself], irresponsible, or indolent person from turning into a corrupt person. When we are talking about a chief, civilian or military, regardless of their level, in addition to being corrupt, because of the power they hold and resources they manage [passage indistinct] turn into people who corrupt others, like the case of Ochoa. Let's educate our combatants, officers, and chiefs in the firm conviction that the only legitimate goods are those which are the fruits of work and of contribution to society, according to that society's ability to compensate for the efforts of each person. Those are the only legitimate goods. [Words indistinct] let us be, if the case arises again, like those men, humble children of the nation, of the most [word indistinct] work activities...[incomplete sentence as heard] Let us be, I repeat, should the case arise again, like those who gave everything they had: their work, furniture, photograph equipment, etc to finance the assault to the Moncada Barracks. In addition to giving it all, they gave what is worth more—their very own lives, many of them, furthermore, sacrificed themselves! [pounds the podium once] That is how you make a revolution! However, that is also the way one should be ready to defend it. [applause]

Let's build, among ourselves, the ties of brotherhood. I am referring here to the Armed Forces. However, within the concept of the war of all the peoples, the Armed Forces is everything, if, unfortunately, we had to fight at this time. In this case, of course, I do want want to refer only to the Armed Forces but to the whole country. Let's build among ourselves the ties of brotherhood and of respect that have maintained, and maintain, us united and which helped us to win the most difficult moments.

Let this Western Army be a shield of the ideology and morals of the Cuban Revolution, socialism, and internationalism! [pounds on podium] Fatherland or death! [crowd responds: We shall win!] [applause]

Dominican Republic

100-Percent Participation in Strike Reported

FL1906143389 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1347 GMT 19 Jun 89

[Telephone report by Eugenio Ferran, Santo Domingo Radio Mil correspondent, during "Hot Off the Press" section of "Revista de la Manana"]

[Text] The 48-hour national strike called by more than 300 peasant, trade union, and people's organizations of the Dominican Republic has received 100 percent participation. The strike began today at 0600 and is almost total, according to reports we have received from the interior of the country and observations we made during a tour through Santo Domingo.

All trade, industrial, and educational activities, as well transportation, are at a complete standstill today. The population has also massively supported the strike organized by peasant and people's groups and they have remained inside their homes.

The National Strike Committee said that Army and police units have imprisoned more than 1,000 youths who were detained in the capital and in cities in the interior of the country during the past 24 hours. This statement was made by Virtudes Alvarez, principal spokesperson for the people's and trade union organizations which have called for the 48-hour national strike throughout the country to demand economic and social changes.

Alvarez said that with the detention of many strike leaders in cities in the interior of the country, no one will be able to guarantee that the strike will remain peaceful and orderly as its organizers had originally planned.

The Dominican Episcopal Conference today began mediating between officials and the organizations that called the strike to try and find a solution to the conflict. The Catholic Church is trying to get national authorities to once again meet with the strikers to see if an agreement can be reached on the people's demands. The Dominican Episcopal Conference, that is to say the Catholic Church, issued a statement saying that the strike that began today at 0600 is morally legitimate and they attributed the action to the government's economic policy which has led to continued price increases on basic goods.

I repeat: Participation in the 48-hour national strike called by more than 300 trade union, peasant, and people's organizations in the Dominican Republic is almost 100 percent. The strikers have made a list of economic and social demands. The capital today, as well as cities in the interior, are at a standstill this morning. All transportation, trade, industrial, and educational activities are at a standstill because of the strike. Nevertheless, not a single violent incident has yet occurred because of the strike in the Dominican Republic.

Strike 'Totally Complied With'

FL1906181289 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1605 GMT 19 Jun 89

[Text] The 48-hour strike initiated today is being totally complied with in the entire country. This was assured by Francisco Antonio Santos, one of the spokesmen for the strike's organizing committee. Santos asserts that, according to reports received in the last few hours, the stoppage is being complied with in the 29 provinces and dozens of municipalities, including Santo Domingo.

The spokesman for the National Strike Committee believes that this movement constitutes a plebiscite because of its magnitude and the response it has motivated. He assured that faced with this great plebiscite demonstration, the government's duty is to produce changes in the currency exchange policy, [word indistinct] public investment, and trade control.

The national strike committee hopes that the government will respond to the 13-point demand that caused the general paralyzation of activities. Santos is confident that negotiations will take place with specific and immediate results.

Radio Mil Informando [name of newscast] correspondents in various areas of the country report that the stoppage is being totally complied with in each one of the places from where they are reporting. They add that tires have been burned and objects have been thrown into the streets.

Church Officials Meet

FL1906184589 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1638 GMT 19 Jun 89

[Live report from Santo Domingo's National Palace by Tomas Aquino Mendez]

[Excerpts] The highest Catholic Church hierarchy has just entered the office of President Joaquin Balaguer with whom they expect to talk about the situation in the country that began at 0600 today when various popular, trade union, and social organizations called for a 48-hour stoppage. Jose Arnaiz, Agripino Nunez Collado, and Nicolas de Jesus Lopez Rodriguez just entered President Balaguer's office but refused to talk with journalists before seeing the head of state.

The priests went to the presidential building and were immediately led to President Balaguer's office. They said they will give reports when they leave.

The Catholic Church has been called on several times to mediate between the government and the sectors that called for the stoppage taking place in the entire country.

On another matter, Rafael Bello Andino [Secretary of State for the Presidency] denied that the popular and labor union leaders who have organized the protest in the entire country are being persecuted. Bello Andino explained that he sent a note to television producer Freddy Veras Goyco at 1000 yesterday in which he warned that labor union leaders organizing the stoppage would go to his program and use codes to announce the places where bombs would be placed and where vehicles would be burned, as part of the stoppage. [passage omitted]

Juan Jose Arteaga and Cristobal Marte, high-level government officials, denied that the strike called for this morning is being effectively carried out. The officials reported that duty free areas, public offices, and other institutions are operating normally in Barahona, San Juan de la Maguana, La Romana, Santiago, and other places. Juan Jose Artega, economic adviser, and Cristobal Marte, under secretary for the Presidency, noted that the situation in the country is peaceful and under control. They called on the population to prevent any violent incident. [passage omitted]

3 Killed, 9 Wounded in Strike

PA2006032089 Buenos Aires REUTER in Spanish 0224 GMT 20 Jun 89

[Text] Santo Domingo, 19 Jun (REUTER)—Three people were killed, nine wounded, and hundreds of labor activists arrested in Santo Domingo by the end of the 1st day of a 48-hour general strike staged to demand wage increases and fixed prices.

The police reported that two demonstrators were killed in the northern part of the capital, where the police and the Army controlled street protests by firing bursts from machineguns and automatic rifles.

The police also reported that a motorcyclist was shot to death by a soldier this morning in Bonao, 80 km north of Santo Domingo, when he ignored an order to halt.

The same source said that various skirmishes in the capital had left seven people wounded, some of them seriously.

Meanwhile, Radio Popular, a privately owned radio station, reported that two others had been shot in Barahona and Cotuy, two interior towns.

Eyewitnesses have reported that confrontations were continuing this afternoon in Juan Pablo Duarte, a low-income neighborhood in the capital.

The labor unions that organized the strike have reported that over 1,000 people have been arrested in different parts of the country since last night.

A Catholic Church delegation began to mediate between the government and the labor activists at noon today in an effort to achieve a suspension of the strike. Labor leaders claim the strike was total, while the authorities say that it was only partial.

The delegation, headed by Monsignor Nicolas Lopez Rodriguez, bishop of Santo Domingo, met first with President Joaquin Balaguer and then in the afternoon with the labor leaders.

Although the main Dominican cities have been patrolled by heavily armed soldiers and policemen since dawn, two radio stations and one private television station have reported that tires were burned and several commercial establishments were sacked and burned.

Presidency Minister Rafael Bello Andino denied these incidents but added that the power outage last night, which left the country without electricity, was a result of sabotage perpetrated by the strikers.

The National Strike Committee, which groups all labor unions, issued a communique reporting that the government and some businessmen were threatening workers with dismissals if they did not show up to work tomorrow. The committee threatened to increase the protest measures.

The Army occupied the offices of the two labor unions that called the strike and prevented labor union members from entering the offices, Conference of Mass Organizations—one of the groups supporting the strike—spokeswoman Virtudes Alvarez, reported.

This morning in Santo Domingo, stores did not open, some government offices were closed, public transportation was scarce, and the streets were almost deserted.

The strike was called to demand a 100-percent salary hike, cuts in the prices of staples, and greater controls on the foreign exchange market.

The government has declared the strike illegal and charged labor leaders with promoting "unrest among Dominicans."

Party Leader Denies Link to 'Troublemakers'

FL1906200289 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1611 GMT 19 Jun 89

[Passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] Radames Severino, leader of the Democratic Quisqueyan Party, PQD, has denied that this political organization is promoting the creation of groups to alter the public order.

[Severino] "The PQD is alerting the citizens that sectors allegedly linked to the national stoppage taking place today have planned to associate our organization with supposed groups that allegedly are aimed at altering the public order."

Severino asserted that he has reports that there is a supposed plan to link the PQD to the disorders that could take place in the middle of the national strike being staged in the entire country.

[Severino] "We want to point out that the PQD has reports indicating that the tactics aimed at linking our party with the supposed existence of those groups consists of creating neighborhood arguments that could degenerate in violent acts and if any of the members of those groups are detained by the police, they would identify themselves as PQD leaders supposedly acting in defense of President Balaguer and the government.

"In this regard, we want to tell the citizens and authorities that the PQD is neither involved in those acts nor accepts or tolerates that its leaders get involved in them. For this reason, we separate the PQD from any event that goes against the law and urge the leadership and membership of our organization to remain away from places and circumstances that could be used by the promoters of the stopagge to link our party with possible groups of troublemakers."

Haiti

Avril Notes 'Dangers of Current Situation'

FL1906193389 Port-au-Prince L'UNION in French No 155, 17-19 Jun 89 pp 1, 12

[Address to the nation delivered by President Avril from the National Palace in Port-au-Prince on the evening of 16 June and carried over Haitian national radio and television]

[Text] People of Haiti: The incidents that have occurred successively over the last few days, mainly those that took place yesterday, once again attest to the dangers of the current situation. They are proof of the many maneuvers aimed at perturbing, through the installation of a climate of insecurity, the democratic process that has been undertaken. These incidents reveal convergent action by different political groups or tendencies whose strategies reject the expression of the popular sovereignty and are aimed at taking power through terrorist action.

Today's speech was to have been the occasion to draw up a balance sheet of the government's achievements, which would very probably have shown the distance covered. However, because of the imperatives of the current situation, nothing of the kind!

The construction of democracy that has been undertaken—by institutionalizing dialogue and concerted action—has suffered setbacks ever since professional agitators decided to make of insecurity the daily bread of our poor population, whose only enemy is he who is the enemy of order and whose only ambition is to work to ensure for itself a future other than one based on fear and terror.

How can those whose mission is to save lives act in such a way as to destroy life? How can this be understood?

How can those whose vocation is to guide and to educate induce the people onto dead-end paths or onto the path of despair? How can this be explained?

Lastly, how can those whose vocation is to provide relief during difficulties and to provide counsel on the most sacred of human values contribute to setting Haitians against one another by means of acts revolting to people's consciences? How can this be justified?

It is the duty of all of us to oppose these things with all our strength and to cause this macabre design, which can only serve to lead to the collapse of our society, to fail.

Let the population be reassured. The government has instructed the Haitian Police and Army authorities to conduct the struggle against the prevailing insecurity through to the very end. The Haitian Armed Forces high command has set in motion a plan, whose first results we are beginning to see. Firmly and steadfastly, and with the trust and assistance of all, the Army shall be successful in its mission to protect lives and property and shall achieve the transition to democracy to the satisfaction of the Haitian people.

Those who think they can block our society's march towards the establishment of the conditions propitious to the holding of elections within order and security can just stop deceiving themselves. The 17 September government, pursuing its goal of consolidating social peace through all appropriate measures, will not disappoint the Haitian people's profound aspiration to freely express their sovereignty through universal suffrage.

Furthermore, the solidarity of the sons of Haiti will triumph over the maneuvers of all those who, in order to better impose their plan, want to capitalize on the extreme poverty of the population and the ever-so-difficult situation of the members of the Army.

This solidarity, which is the fundamental human value that has permitted the immense majority of those who have been abandoned to survive on their own, must spread ever wider each day.

It is today more than ever the imperative duty of all of this country's moral authorities to commit themselves more deeply, without reservations or ulterior motives, to this struggle to promote the values capable of putting a

halt to the disintegration of our society. Voices reminding everyone of the fundamental principles of civic duty, respect for the human being, respect for the truth, and respect for commitments made and for the word one has given—the abandoning of these principles has led our fatherland to so many odysseys, caused so many misfortunes—must resound.

People of Haiti, it is no longer a time for tergiversations and rash actions. Wherever we may be, we must aim for effectiveness and coordinate our means. By going back to the nation's great ideals, by weaving a future of fraternity and unity, we will respond to the challenge that underdevelopment constitutes for us. With everyone's determination and the help of the Almighty, Haiti will once again make itself worthy of its historical image: That of a small country but one that is a great nation.

[Signed] President Prosper Avril, lieutenant general of the Haitian Armed Forces.

Army Interim Commander in Chief Resigns

FL1906152589 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 19 Jun 89

[Text] A source close to the government said that the government decided to put the Army into Condition D because it had a number of reports to the effect that certain sectors were planning to take hostage members of the Army general staff, diplomats, and even (?priests), over the last few days. This same source also told us that Sergeant Major Joseph Heubreux has gone abroad, accompanying his wife, who has medical problems.

According to other reports circulating, General Herard Abraham has resigned as interim commander in chief of the Army because of resistance he encountered to a decision he made to transfer a subordinate.

Sgt Heubreux Attends Seminar Opening 19 Jun

FL1906194089 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 19 Jun 89

[Text] A national seminar on the relationship between a country's population and socioeconomic development opened late this morning. The president of the military government and Sergeant Joseph Heubreux participated in the opening session of the seminar.

A very big deployment of security forces was noticed around the Hotel Christopher because of the presence of the chief of state, Sergeant Joseph Heubreux, and other government officials, of course.

International Arrest Warrant Out for Doctor

FL1906154789 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 19 Jun 89

[Text] A communique from the Ministry of Interior dated 16 June announces that there is an international arrest warrant out for Jean Claude Joseph, a Haitian [as heard] doctor whom the police say is also called Jean Claude Alcazar and Jean Claude Douyon, who has been a fugitive since the police discovered at his clinic and residence on 15 June a bunch of explosive grenades [as heard] and other material capable of causing big damages.

According to an AFP news dispatch, which quotes a number of official sources which it does not identify, there is a connection between Jean Claude Joseph and the Duvalier regime.

Salinas Vows To End Sinaloa Security Problem

PA1906201189 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision Television in Spanish 1300 GMT 17 Jun 89

[Text] President Carlos Salinas de Gortari has confirmed his administration's resolve to end the security problem in Sinaloa State, which results mainly from the activities of drug traffickers. Action will be taken against organized crime members, no matter who they are.

[Begin Salinas recording] We have not stopped despite our country's problems. On the contrary, we are trying to use resources more efficiently, to meet the most heartfelt demands, and to go on making progress so that we will not only be talking about problems, but taking steps to solve them. [end recording]

Shortly before concluding his working tour through Sinaloa State, the president of the republic said that the way to do this is to keep up the dialogue, the concerted efforts, and the joint efforts, avoiding confrontations among groups and citizens.

At a meeting with representatives of the production sector in Culiacan, the chief executive assessed the steps to be taken to modernize Sinaloa, which require direct allocations of federal resources of 430 billion pesos and total financial resources exceeding 3 trillion pesos.

He also confirmed his government's determination to end the security problem in this state, which mainly stems from the activities of the drug traffickers.

[Begin Salinas recording] We will continue our strong actions against criminals, regardless of who they are, in order to guarantee security to the citizens and their families. [applause] [end recording]

He had talked earlier with residents of the popular housing development of (El Vallado), who made other demands, such as legalizing their land tenure and providing them with electrical power, drinking water, and education. The president handed over 6,000 property titles to the residents and pledged to meet their demands with 150 billion pesos this year. The chief executive also launched a school reconstruction program in Culiacan. He then traveled to Masatlan, where he dedicated a housing complex [word indistinct] and inaugurated the civilian hospital.

Economic Pact Extended to March 1990

PA1906181189 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision Television in Spanish 1300 GMT 19 Jun 89

[Passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] The duration of the Stability and Economic Growth Pact has been extended for 8 more months, from 1 August this year to 31 March 1990. This is very important because we still have a month left of the pact signed early this year. In a concerted effort at a meeting at the Presidential Palace last night, the public sector agreed to maintain the current prices and rates. In addition, the exchange rate will continue to be adjusted at the rate of 1 peso daily. Businessmen promised to maintain the same prices and, together with workers and peasants, underlined their willingness to be consistent in revising contracts in a suitable climate for negotiation.

The government again promised to apply strict discipline in handling public finances to achieve the primary surplus stipulated by Mexico City's budget and disbursements law. This is President Carlos Salinas de Gortari:

"I am very pleased to report on a new agreement reached by workers, peasants, businessmen, and the government. By extending the duration of the pact, the priority need to decrease inflation is emphasized and the conditions for the increased and equitable production that we all seek are consolidated."

President Salinas, who presided over the meeting as an honored observer, pointed out the government's commitment to foster general modernization in the basic goods' production and commercialization systems. He also referred to the country's macroeconomic condition.

"We have achieved great progress in the strict discipline of public finances, in the economic reorganization of large corporations, and in adjustment of production to take advantage of the commercial opening. Nevertheless, some conditions have yet to be established to complete the transition so that the stability of prices can be maintained with less effort through continued economic balance rather than through agreed upon prices at the sector and branch level. To complete this transition at the macroeconomic level, it is necessary to lower true interest rates, which are excessive."

Salinas also referred to what we commented on at the beginning of this report. He clearly said that the renewed pact strengthens Mexico's capability for negotiating abroad. Unity of the Mexican people precludes hasty acceptance of any arrangement. This is very important because if Mexico's internal position is weak, the country will have to accept any negotiation terms. The extension of the pact to March 1990 strengthens the internal position and Mexico becomes more able to renegotiate its foreign debt. Salinas further stated that it is necessary to reach an efficient agreement for growth purposes soon, but that the preliminary condition, that is, the internal strength to accept only what is good for Mexico, has already been met.

"In this economic consolidation pact, the government will scrupulously comply with its obligations and maintain the required communications and vigilance to successfully fulfill the pact. Public finances will be handled with strict discipline. The primary surplus will be increased. Prices and rates of goods and services in the

public sector will remain stable. Adjustment of the exchange rate will remain at 1 peso daily. We will complete the transition stage calmly and firmly and in an orderly manner."

Labor and Social Welfare Secretary Arsenio Farell had previously read the agreed upon points. These 11 are the most relevant.

1. The Federal government reiterates its promise to continue to handle public finances with strict discipline to achieve the primary surplus stipulated in the revenue law and Mexico City's budget.

2. The public sector will not change its current prices and rates.

3. The exchange rate will be adjusted at an average rate of 1 peso daily from 1 August to 31 March 1990.

4. Within limitations, the business sector agrees not to change prices and to regularly provide enough information on the goods manufactured and commercialized.

5. The government will make a special effort to agree with the corresponding sector on the overall modernization of the basic products' production and commercialization systems to resolve organization problems, lower production costs, and increased production.

6. Workers and employers reiterate their willingness to maintain a climate suitable for negotiation with ample freedom of the sides during the revision of contracts.

7. The government will revise import standards to avoid unfair competitiveness. Precise standards will be established so that imports comply with the quality requirements demanded from home products. This measure, however, will never be used for protectionist purposes.

8. The government promises to increase the economic deregulation process with specific measures to foster competitiveness and productivity.

9. The government intends to firmly support rural development and modernization to increase the sector's productivity and, consequently, the peasants true income. The basic purpose is to gradually recover the profitability of the agricultural and forest sector to guarantee investments and stimulate an increase in supplies and rural income.

10. The government and productive sectors, according to the importance the national development plan attaches to ecological problems and to preventing irreparable deterioration of the environment and production, will agree with state and municipal authorities on the measures considered necessary.

11. The signing parties hereby express their willingness to keep close watch on fulfilling the points agreed upon through the Follow-up and Assessment Commission.

Ortiz Mena Predicts Lower Inflation for 1989

PA1906170589 Mexico City THE NEWS in English 14 Jun 89 p 31

[Article by Enloe St James]

[Text] Mexico's 1989 national consumer inflation will reach 22 percent, predicted Antonio Ortiz Mena, director of the National Bank of Mexico (Banamex) and former president of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB).

The prediction—which was published in Lloyd's Mexican Economic Report for June—is roughly consistent with government and private sector projections and would mark a significant decline from the 1988 figures.

"If his projection proves accurate, it will represent a 42.5 percent drop in comparison to 1988, and a magnum decrease of 623 percent in comparison to 1987," said the Lloyd's report.

President Carlos Salinas de Gortari said last week that Mexico registered a 12-month, May-to-May aggregate inflation rate of 18.5 percent, the lowest in 10 years. The monthly inflation rate for May was 1.4 percent, according to figures released last week by Banco de Mexico, the nation's central bank.

The inflation decrease is also noticeable in terms of the supply and demand for circulating money—a more detailed reading of inflation performance.

A Banamex May report, entitled "Analysis of Mexico's Economic Situation," stated that the rate of money supply, or "excessive liquidity," dropped from over 150 percent in January 1988 to minus 60 percent in January of 1989.

Excessive liquidity is an annual percentage aggregate measured as the monthly growth in the supply of bills, coins, and checks minus the demand for money.

Conversely, the growth rate of demand for money decreased from 23 percent in December 1988 to roughly 19 percent in February 1989, a trend which continues to decline, the Banamex report said.

"The decline is a response to the process of 'deflation,' in which demand for money increases as financial payment instruments grow in number and scope," according to the report. The decline came after a market rise during October and November 1988 from about 2 percent to 23 percent.

A stock-market expert said last week that there is a possibility that inflation will be brought down to 5 percent, as projected in the National Development Plan (PND), noting the government's success in bringing it down from 180 percent to 18.5 percent since December 1987.

A complementary indicator shows that "the economy is not decreasing activity, but is slightly increasing activity, that is our impression of what is going on right now," the expert said.

In a related subject, the Banamex report also said that corporate business taxes during 1988 accounted for a mere 1.6 percent of gross domestic product. (GDP).

Ambassador to Dominican Republic Dies
PA1906141289 Mexico City XHTV Television in Spanish 0200 GMT 17 Jun 89

[Summary] The Mexican Foreign Secretariat has confirmed the death of Joaquin Bernal, Mexico's ambassador to the Dominican Republic, just 4 days after he presented his credentials to President Joaquin Balaguer. Ambassador Bernal, who was 67, died of a heart attack. The Foreign Secretariat announced the appointment of Edmundo Lopez to replace him as Mexico's ambassador to the Dominican Republic.

Attorney General's Office Reports Drug Totals
PA1906222789 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision Television in Spanish 1300 GMT 17 Jun 89

[Summary] The Attorney General's Office has issued a report on the struggle against drug trafficking. The report, which covers the period from 15 December to 5 June, highlights that 41 drug-trafficking gangs were dismantled and over 4,000 people were arrested during this period. The authorities confiscated, jointly with the Armed Forces, some 15 tons of cocaine, 167 tons of marijuana, and 252 kg of opium paste and heroin. Ten officers from the Attorney General's Office have been killed in the past 6 months in the struggle against drug traffickers.

Costa Rica

Security at Nicaraguan Border Increased

PA1906125989 San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 14 Jun 89 p 12-A

[Text] Yesterday at 0500, a heavily armed Civil Guard detachment departed from the 3d police station in San Jose and headed toward the Nicaraguan border.

Police Chief Juan Felix Barrantes told LA REPUBLICA that this is the greatest effort to date carried out by the police to "put an end to the climate of terror at the northern border." Barrrantes personally headed the detachment, which began its "cleanup operation" yesterday afternoon, despite the rainy weather in the jungle area south of the border area's San Juan River.

According to official reports, the mission's purpose is to track down two groups of armed bandits, apparently composed of "contras," who have been attacking businesses, banks, and private homes in distant locations such as San Isidro de Pocosol and other areas north of Los Chiles and San Carlos.

The situation at the border has deteriorated; residents in those areas are afraid of the bandits and there is a lack of police vigilance. It has been virtually impossible for the Civil Guard to cover every square inch of such a large jungle territory which, for several years, has been affected by the rigors of Nicaragua's internal conflict.

El Salvador

Msgr Rosa Chavez on New Antiterrorism Law

PA1906141989 San Salvador La Voz Panamericana in Spanish 1400 GMT 18 Jun 89

[Homily by Msgr Gregorio Rosa Chavez, auxiliary bishop of San Salvador, at the Metropolitan Cathedral—live]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Following the euphoria of the presidential inauguration and the impact of the first test given by the murder of a high-ranking official, the new government is becoming aware of the harsh reality of the complex national situation in all its aspects. This week, perhaps the most oustanding event has been the heated debate on how to cope with terrorism within a legal framework. This includes the so-called antiterrorism law, called specifically the Law for the Defense of Democracy.

When one reads the law, one feels that the unrest of the various groups and political parties is justified, as they fear a setback to times past. It is said that the law seeks to defend democracy, but this will only be possible if the law protects the liberties granted by the Constitution to all Salvadorans. If not, the medicine will be worse than the disease.

This week has also been marked by a cry that demands respect for human rights. There is the case of a trade union leader who reported that he had been tortured and an almost never-ending list of people who go to the archbishopric as they are justly anguished over the uncertainty of their lives. These are like red lights on a panel board and should not go unattended by the new president and his coworkers. Some will want to take advantage of this to pressure the government. However, one cannot ignore that there are very serious problems in this area.

Meanwhile, hopes for peace seem to languish. The attitude of the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] has not favored a rapproachement of the parties in conflict. It is true that President Cristiani continues to work on a dialogue commission. However, the task of trying to open nonviolent routes corresponds to all sectors and all citizens. The Permanent Committee of National Debate has continued to work toward this effect, and next week will announce its proposal to attain progress toward peace. In this problem and the many other huge problems of the fatherland, we must realize that we are all responsible for the solution. [passage omitted]

Assembly President Denies Talk of 'Gag' Law

San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 19 Jun 89

[Report by Rene Hurtado on statements by Legislative Assembly President Ricardo Alvarenga Valdivieso; date and place not given]

[Text] Salvadoran Legislative Assembly President Ricardo Alvarenga Valdivieso said this morning that the Legislative Assembly is not discussing any antiterrorist law. Alvarenga said furthermore that such a law has not been presented to the Legislative Assembly.

Alvarenga also asserted that if such a law were to be discussed by the Legislative Assembly, both the Assembly president and the Assembly's board of directors would know about it. Alvarenga insisted that such a law has not been taken before the Legislative Assembly. Alvarenga also discussed the antiterrorist law's implications and significance, which have received so much attention in the media these days.

[Begin Alvarenga recording] We [word indistinct] a number of things, but I believe that it is inappropriate to give any information at this time. We should instead wait for the law to be drafted by judicial experts.

Perhaps as a way to help you with your commentaries, I should insist here that [words indistinct] was very interested in this matter [words indistinct]. In my opinion it is not worthwhile to improve government and social behavior if anyone can come at any time and destroy the

results of the people's efforts. You can be sure that we will not approve an antiterrorist law, an illogical law, or—as many have described it—a gag law—or anything of the kind.

We believe that we have made great social progress. We have paid a high price for that progress, and I do not believe that we have the right to destroy the results of the people's efforts. [end recording]

As for reports that the antiterrorist law is currently under discussion at the Legislative Assembly—a report that has been repeatedly denied—Alvarenga said:

[Begin Alvarenga recording] I can only say that I am not aware of [words indistinct]. Why? Because we [words indistinct] a document that is being prepared [words indistinct] tell you that I do not want to say anything right now, because I have not seen the documents that are being prepared by legal experts who command respect in judicial circles [words indistinct]. I do not want to say anything before [words indistinct] becomes even more dangerous. [Words indistinct] those documents when I have not seen those documents. [end recording]

Immigration Director Announces Stricter Controls

PA1906181589 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Jun 89

[Text] New Immigration Director Colonel Maximiliano Leiva has confirmed the decision to more strictly control the entrance of foreigners into the country to prevent them from joining street activities sponsored by antigovernment organizations.

According to the official, foreigners entering the country will be asked to sign an affidavit stating what activities they will carry out in El Salvador. They will be deported immediately whenever it is established that they have participated in the aforementioned activities.

Rebel Radio Reports 14-16 Jun Actions

PA1906142789

[Editorial Report] (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador at 0000 GMT on 17 June carries a 6-minute roundup of rebel military actions covering 14-16 June.

The report begins with activity at La Paz Department against the Belloso Battalion when guerrillas attacked them at 1230 on 14 June, using rifle fire at La Colina farm located near the Sensuntepeque Volcano, Zacatecoluca Jurisdiction, resulting in one casualty, identified as a Belloso Battalion subsergeant.

The station adds that at 0200 on 16 June, a patrol of the 5th Infantry Brigade was attacked by snipers at a point along the Pan-American Highway near San Vicente, inflicting three casualties on the brigade. The Lenca Battalion also clashed with Farabundo Marti National Liberation guerrillas in another town in San Vicente, the station reports, adding that three battalion members were wounded in the clash. To conclude the military reports, Radio Venceremos reports that the Infantes de Marina Battalion sustained one casualty in El Carrizal, Santa Ana Department, where the guerrillas had placed booby traps.

Venceremos Reports Two Ambushes 16-17 Jun

PA1906132289

[Editorial Report] (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador at 0000 GMT on 18 June carries a 3-minute report on rebel ambushes.

The first report states that "at noon on 16 June, a convoy of four trucks was ambushed on the Pan-American Highway near Rio Frio, Apastepeque Jurisdiction, an action resulting in 12 enemy casualties and one completely demolished truck."

Another report announces that "at 0930 on 17 June, a Military Detachment No 2 truck traveling from Sensuntepeque to Ilobasco was ambushed near Rancho Quemado, Ilobasco Jurisdiction, as a result of which the enemy sustained 8 casualties."

Guatemala

PSD Charges Army, Police Operate Death Squads

PA1906195689 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 16 Jun 89 p6

[Text] Guatemala City, 16 June—The Democratic Socialist Party [PSD] has charged that illegal arrests and executions are being carried out. It expressed concern over an increase in the wave of violence, violence that ranges from psychological intimidation to assassinations.

The PSD statement comes 2 days after Amnesty International released a report in London noting that "the Guatemalan Army and police have continued to operate death squads that kidnap and torture their victims."

Members of the PSD National Executive Committee added: "We believe that these new violent acts discourage citizens in their search for peace and democracy and create a climate of fear and insecurity that seriously endangers the incipient process of democratization."

The PSD mentioned specific cases to back its accusations:

1. The illegal execution of neighbors of El Jocotillo village in Villa Canales, Guatemala.

2. The illegal arrest of Miguel Martin Mejia, a minor. Plainclothesmen detained Mejia at the market in Santa Rosa Chujuyub, located in Santa Cruz de El Quiche, Quiche Department, at 0730 on 9 June.

3. The illegal arrest of Sebastian Gomez de Leon, who was abruptly detained in his business in La Estancia, Sipacapa, San Marcos Department. Heavily armed plainclothesmen carried out this action at 0700 on 12 June.

According to PSD members, these men "tied, blindfolded, and covered Gomez with a blanket. He was then put in the back of a green Toyota pick-up truck that did not have a license plate. The plainclothesmen then took off for San Marcos."

In view of this situation, the PSD demanded an immediate investigation of these incidents so that they do not go unpunished like many others in the "dark history of the Guatemalan popular movement." The PSD demanded that Mejia and Gomez de Leon be released alive.

Honduras

Azcona Invites Ortega to Regional Summit

PA1906224189 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2219 GMT 19 Jun 89

[Excerpts] Tegucigalpa, 19 Jun (ACAN-EFE)—Honduran President Jose Azcona Hoyo has invited his Nicaraguan counterpart, Daniel Ortega, to the forthcoming Central American summit slated to be held 7-9 July in Honduras to analyze the area crisis.

Azcona, who announced today he had invited Ortega, said the presidents will also discuss the topic of the demobilization, repatriation, or relocation of the Nicaraguan contras and the Nicaraguan suit against Honduras at the International Court of Justice. [passage omitted]

According to the Honduran president, the Nicaraguan suit goes "a little against" what the presidents agreed on during the summit held last February in El Salvador.

Azcona recalled that the presidents committed themselves to seek a solution to the area's problems.

The president added that the site of the next summit has not yet been established. So far, it has been mentioned that it might be held in Tela, a port city, or in Roatan, an island on the Honduran Caribbean. [passage omitted]

Nicaragua

Ortega Asks Obando y Bravo To Mediate With Bush

PA1906194289 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1854 GMT 19 Jun 89

[Text] Managua, 19 Jun (ACAN-EFE)—Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega today asked Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo to mediate with U.S. President George Bush to carry out a dialogue between the two countries.

"I have asked Cardinal Obando y Bravo to intercede with the Bush administration in order to facilitate a dialogue, because we are prepared to normalize relations with the United States," the Nicaraguan head of state said.

The Nicaraguan religious leader responded to the proposal by stating that "we will reflect and, at some point, will respond to President Ortega. If we deem it appropriate, I will serve as a mediator."

Another one of the topics discussed by Ortega and Obando y Bravo at a meeting at the Archbishopric was amnesty for the "contras" who are in jail in Nicaragua, as well as for the 39 former Somozist guardsmen who are also imprisoned.

According to Sandinist sources, there are approximately 1,000 "contras" in jail in Nicaragua, but, according to the Human Rights Commission, which has ties with the opposition, the total is closer to 6,000.

Ortega pointed out that an amnesty will be granted as soon as the rebels in Honduras begin to be demobilized, "as stipulated in the El Salvador agreement" signed by the Central American presidents last February.

Ortega expressed concern to Obando y Bravo over the "lack of understanding" shown by Nicaragua's various groups toward the economic adjustment plan the government has been implementing since 14 February.

Meanwhile, Ortega expressed his support for the efforts of 900 Latin American Catholic bishops—including Obando y Bravo—to persuade George Bush to lift the economic embargo imposed on Nicaragua since May 1985.

Ortega observed: "The embargo is to no one's advantage. It does not help the producers or the workers. It hurts all of us, and I have asked Cardinal Obando y Bravo for his mediation to put an end to the embargo."

Ortega Comments on Meeting With Obando y Bravo

PA1906214489 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1959 GMT 19 Jun 89

[Statement by President Daniel Ortega regarding his 19 June meeting with Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo; place not given—broadcast in progress; recorded]

[Text] ...on the country's (?very difficult) economic situation. As the Nicaraguan president, I believe it is necessary to share this concern with Nicaragua's spiritual leader, Cardinal Obando y Bravo. I have also expressed to him my (?view) of the economic program we have implemented this year to fight inflation and gradually (?increase) production. This demands great sacrifices, particularly from workers. I discussed this at length with Cardinal Obando y Bravo and expressed to him my concern regarding the lack of understanding demonstrated by some economic and political sectors that do not have a mature attitude toward this grave

economic situation. These sectors are hindering the application of the economic adjustment program. This conflict could lead to a polarization that would harm the Nicaraguan people and all social and economic sectors.

I told Msgr Obando y Bravo of the Nicaraguan people's determination to continue defending this economic program to strengthen the mixed economy and multiparty system, overcome hyperinflation, and improve the people's standard of living. I also pointed out how important it is for the Nicaraguan society's various economic sectors to contribute freely and maturely to this economic [word indistinct] program, which will strengthen the national economy.

Msgr Obando y Bravo and I also discussed the role the Americans can play, which is very important because of the path the current situation has taken. The U.S. Government's current position is not conducive to a climate of peace in Nicaragua. I acknowledged the message that Msgr Obando y Bravo and 900 other bishops sent some months ago to the U.S. Congress, asking that the embargo against Nicaragua be lifted. The embargo has hurt all the Nicaraguan people: the workers, producers, Nicaragua's entire society.

I asked Msgr Obando y Bravo to intercede with the U.S. Government and President Bush on Nicaragua's behalf to set in motion a dialogue. I am willing to talk with the U.S. Government if the foundations for such a dialogue can be established and relations between the United States and Nicaragua can be normalized.

Msgr Obando y Bravo and I also discussed the amnesty issue. He expressed concern over amnesty and I told him that at the Costa del Sol meeting in El Salvador, we [the Central American presidents] pledged to implement total amnesty as soon as the contras are demobilized. So, the sooner this demobilization takes place—if it is agreed upon at the next Central American presidents meeting—the sooner all the jailed contras will be released.

I am grateful for the opportunity Cardinal Obando y Bravo has given me to express my points of view and concerns and for the constructive and positive attitude with which he has approached the economic, political, and social problems Nicaraguan society is facing.

UNHCR Reports Return of Nicaraguan Refugees

PA1906161589 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] A report issued by the United Nations Office of High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR] disclosed that 1,424 Nicaraguans have voluntarily returned from Costa Rica, Honduras, and Guatemala in 1989. In addition to coordinating the repatriation, the UNHCR is cooperating in rebuilding projects in four regions of the country. A total of $5.5 million was invested in the project by the EEC and the Swedish Government.

PPSC Leader Discusses Plans for Elections

PA2006034789 Managua Radio Catolica in Spanish 1130 GMT 19 Jun 89

[Report on interview with Popular Social Christian Party leader Mauricio Diaz by unidentified reporter; date and place not given]

[Text] [Reporter] Can the opposition remain united? Will the National Opposition Unity [UNO] be the movement to unite Nicaragua's opposition, the Nicaraguans who want a change of government?

It is constantly said there may be new divisions and schisms between the parties in UNO. It has often been said, for instance, that a democratic center may be formed by the parties that are currently in the National Assembly.

I asked Maurio Diaz, secretary general of the Popular Social Christian Party [PPSC], how true these statements are:

[Begin recording] [Diaz] First, I believe Nicaragua's future hinges on our ability to unite for the 1990 elections. This means the solution to the country's democratization problem depends on the opposition's ability to understand that only unity will change the nature of the Sandinist regime.

Why is the government using the government media and certain political leaders to promote the idea of a centrist group independent from UNO? Why are the Sandinists using some newspapers to promote a centrist group outside UNO? It is simply a desperate effort by the government to disrupt a phenomenon that it did not believe could take place in Nicaragua—the resistance of a large opposition unity.

The 1990 elections will require an enormous amount of resolve on the opposition's part, because each individual party will need approximately 16,000 people to prepare their lists of candidates and voting table board officials and members.

Are those parties that said they will participate in the elections on their own capable of accomplishing this? I really do not believe any of the parties have the required number of members to man voting table boards throughout the entire country.

Given the nature of the upcoming elections and of the ruling party, the only suitable and valid means of approaching the elections is with a united opposition. Will we be able to do this? I believe it depends to a great extent on each political leader's views on surrendering individual, sectarian, or—in any event—selfish positions. The leaders must understand that it is not a party problem or an individual problem but a national problem we must overcome with unity. If we do not achieve

a true opening next year, the Nicaraguan people's agony will be prolonged in time and space, bringing more suffering, grief, and anguish to all of Nicaraguan society.

Therefore, the PPSC wants to fulfill its destiny with the responsibility the case warrants. The leader in this endeavor will be the organization that seeks our unity, because it is our rank and file—not selfish, individual, bureaucratic, or eminently personal interests—who must decide the path we will follow.

[Reporter] Has the opposition taken any of the steps it must take at this time? I am referring to such things as the preparation of a government platform, which the people are expecting. Also, what steps have you taken toward nominating a single presidential candidate, a single vice presidential candidate, and a single list of candidates?

[Diaz] I would say there are specific facts that indicate progress in that direction. This very week, tomorrow, UNO will continue debating its internal operational procedures, which includes the creation of various professional and directorate bodies. Second, several government platforms have already been submitted by various sectors. These platforms are adequately structured, and UNO should use them as a starting point to approve and create its own government program and platform.

I believe most of the opposition leaders in UNO clearly understand we cannot allow others to continue setting the pace for us and that it is our responsibility to immediately choose our presidential and vice presidential candidates and immediately present our lists of National Assembly and municipal candidates. I believe that despite all the limitations caused by the very nature of UNO, the fact that so many trends—and of course, ideological interests—converge in UNO, that very fact has prevented any executive decisionmaking yet. These problems, however, will be solved immediately after the operational procedures are approved.

Regarding the 1990 elections, very shortly—much sooner than many people expect—the opposition will announce its candidates and programs and will announce its resolve to participate in the elections and confront the Sandinist National Liberation Front in 1990. [end recording]

PSC Leader on Formation of Centrist Bloc

PA1906223889 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Jun 89

[Text] The basic platform for what may soon become a bloc of centrist political parties is being drawn up. This bloc has been described as one that will neither advocate a pro-Yankee stance nor be faithful to a Marxist-Leninist philosophy. Julio Ramon Garcia Vilchez, secretary general of the Social Christian Party [PSC] headed by Eric Ramirez, said this weekend that the effort to create the bloc has continued and may lead to a democratic, nationalistic, and progressive path for the Nicaraguan people.

In Garcia Vilchez' opinion, Nicaragua's political sector is divided into four segments: the social Christians or Christian democrats, Marxists, liberals, and conservatives. Garcia Vilchez said the centrist bloc may become a reality, adding that the PSC Congress is making the necessary contacts and taking the necessary steps in that direction and toward participation in the elections with its own candidates. The PSC Congress is scheduled to convene in July.

Carrion Discusses Inflation, Economic Goals

PA1906203389 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 19 Jun 89

[Interview with Industry and Commerce Minister Luis Carrion by unidentified reporter; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] We have several questions on the Nicaraguan economy. For instance, how will the new measures affect the concerted effort to solve economic problems? How will we manage to establish the 10-percent inflation rate we have set as a goal?

[Carrion] We all must defend the economic program and contribute our share of sacrifice so that this program—which is the only one possible—can succeed. We cannot afford to make unilateral concessions or to let everyone try to get as much as possible for themselves. Everyone must make sacrifices.

[Reporter] How can we establish this 10-percent inflation rate, which we have set as our goal?

[Carrion] This figure is a goal. To achieve it, it is very important for all economic sectors to behave responsibly; the international community's cooperation in providing outside resources is also important. This way we will be able to maintain the program and stop the hyperinflation without further increasing the people's sacrifices.

[Reporter] What will happen if we do not receive the $200 million we are waiting for?

[Carrion] The strong pressure we are currently experiencing would continue. However, we believe that our chances for getting these outside resources are greater because we are steadily struggling against hyperinflation. Perhaps we will not get the $200 million but a smaller amount to help the fight against hyperinflation.

[Reporter] What does the phrase "neither a paternalistic nor a capitalist state" mean?

[Carrion] The first part of the phrase means that the various economic sectors should not act as if the state has to solve all their problems and to give them all they need. It means that every one must make a personal contribution and effort. The second part means that during these difficult circumstances and because the country's resources are extremely limited, the state does not act as a capitalist state would. Let us take a specific instance. No agricultural producer to date has seen his land seized by banks because of bad debts. We have considered refinancing and condoning debts. In other words, we take into consideration the producers' problems and try to make it possible for them to produce and make a profit, even if small. However, we cannot be paternalistic and give them all they want and ask for. The state cannot solve all their problems.

[Reporter] Today you said that the state-run enterprises should have a new concept of their role and refrain from raising prices because these raises affect the people. What can you tell us about this?

[Carrion] The manager of a state-run enterprise and more specifically a commercial enterprise cannot make the same kind of financial decisions as would a private businessman. Managing a state-owned enterprise entails economic, social, and political responsibilities. We want to create a new, revolutionary style of carrying out commercial operations.

[Reporter] We agree that the manager is directly responsible for making decisions. What will happen to the people? How can they buy food?

[Carrion] No enterprise can sell at lower-than-cost prices for an indefinite time, because that enterprise would eventually go out of business. If state-owned commercial enterprises go out of business, we will lose their possible contributions. We saw some of these enterprises make contributions during the meeting. The idea is for those who do not act correctly to either learn their lessons or make way for someone else willing to learn. However, we should not believe that the true cost increase entailed by devaluation will fail to be reflected in prices. This cannot be avoided. This transfer has to occur. Otherwise the enterprise will go out of business.

Contras Killed in Clashes, U.S. Ships Sighted

PA1906221189 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1930 GMT 19 Jun 89

[Text] The Defense Ministry reported in a communique this morning that two counterrevolutionaries were killed and two peasants were kidnapped. On 16 June, a counterrevolutionary group attacked Sandinist National Liberation Front troops on La Esperanza hill, southeast of La Pinuela, resulting in the death of two contras. Two AK-rifles and two knapsacks were recovered.

On 15 June, the counterrevolutionaries kidnapped peasant Hildebrando Rayo and his wife, the former president of La Esperanza cooperative, located 7 km northeast of La Concordia in Jinotega.

The Defense Ministry also reported that on 17 June, three large-tonnage ships of the U.S. Navy were sighted off the coast of Fonseca. The naval vessels are to participate in joint maneuvers with Honduras and El Salvador beginning 20 June.

The Defense Ministry reported this morning that the contra leader known as Colina, who had terrorized the peasant population of the 5th Region, was killed during a clash with Sandinist People's Army troops near Walpa.

Panama

Solis Palma Terms U.S. Latin America's 'Enemy'

PA2006035089 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 20 Jun 89

[Speech by Manuel Solis Palma, minister in charge of the Presidency, at the closing ceremony of the Latin American Parliamentary Congress in Panama City on 19 June; broadcast in progress—recorded]

[Text] ...the path to tranquillity is peace. We have had peace in Panama for the past 20 years, despite the serious problems that have rocked the region and despite the serious problems many of our countries are facing. This was due basically to Omar Torrijos' ability to find a middle ground. He did not give the oligarchy all they asked for and he did not—even though he could have—take from them and give to the most needy Panamanians. We maintained that balance due to Torrijos' concept of government, which has been maintained by Commander [Manuel Antonio] Noriega and by the Panama Defense Forces [FDP], who understand their leading role in the Republic's history.

That is why we will not surrender Commander Noriega and that is why we will not surrender power. We cannot surrender a revolution. Whoever wishes to talk with us must do so with the aim of solving national problems and not for the purpose of surrendering to the Latin American people's permanent enemy, the United States of America. [applause]

I told a group of Panamanian bankers with whom I had breakfast a few days ago that if they want tranquillity in the country they must not threaten peace. If, because of some circumstance, we fell into the hands of the Americans, whom they would probably welcome with the white handkerchiefs that are waved in the country today—which are not handkerchiefs of purity but of surrender to the fatherland's permanent enemy—if, I repeat, they ever attained power, they would not find peace, because we would not allow it. Neither the Panamanians nor you, Latin Americans, would allow it, because the continent's fate is at stake. [applause]

I must thank you once again for your presence here. Your presence has strengthened us and given us all the courage we need to continue this struggle. I must tell you, however, that the FDP and enlightened Panamanians will not allow a revolutionary process that has benefited the majority of people to be snatched from them at any cost. This is our resolve and, I reiterate, your presence here has strengthened our resolve. I reiterate my gratitude for your presence in this territory. You were able to confirm how we are being victimized and insulted. I believe, however, that the empire's days are numbered because its mistakes are those of an empire that is losing its strength and, consequently, its reasons for ruling today's world, which no longer accepts bosses.

For this world, for Panama, for all of America, for all of you, friends of America, my heartfelt salute and my eternal gratitude as president of the Republic of Panama. [applause]

Solis Palma on FDP Role as Dialogue Guarantor

PA2006015089 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 2325 GMT 19 Jun 89

[Statement by Manuel Solis Palma, minister in charge of the Presidency; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] A political solution [to the crisis in Panama] must be found by the political parties. The Panama Defense Forces [FDP] can be the guarantor of any solution that is found, but I do not see why there has to be dialogue with the FDP. When I was asked directly about this problem, I referred to what Daniel Ortega said when he remarked that he did not like to talk to the circus clowns but preferred to talk to the circus owners. Perhaps the opposition believes that the executive branch and political parties here are the circus clowns and that the circus owner is Commander Noriega and the FDP. We are not going to argue that, but if that is the case, then we could say, by the same token, why do they not bring Mr Bush or Mr Baker to sit down to hold a dialogue, because they are also the owners of the other circus, if we are going to use these terms.

I believe that a national understanding would be facilitated if we dealt with the problems of the country, as I said today in my statement. That is the fundamental thing and not the discussion of men, because discussing individuals is not conducive to solutions in any country. To think that peace can be achieved or that tranquillity or stability in a country can be attained by eliminating one man is a big mistake. Peace and tranquillity will be achieved here the day that we resolve together the problems of the nation. I am going to reiterate something that I said today also: We must not think that if the opposition takes power, we will cross our arms and calmly allow conflict to prevail in the country. If the industrialists, if the businessmen want peace, they should begin by dedicating themselves to their businesses and not let business, trade, industrial, etc. problems exacerbate the fundamental problems of the Republic. Everybody should mind his own business. When an industrialist, a businessman, or an executive engages in politics, instability ensues, which is the opposite of what they think is the case. It must be made very clear, once and for all, peace will come to this country the day that we all reach an understanding; otherwise, there will be no peace. We do not have our hands tied and we are not fools.

Labor Minister Condemns U.S. 'Aggression'

PA1906160689 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 17 Jun 89 p 14

[Text] Panamanian Labor Minister Cesar Martans said in Geneva, Switzerland, that the violent foreign aggression Panama is experiencing has affected the country's most impoverished groups, increasing the total number of poor, while causing their standard of living to deteriorate.

Addressing the International Labor Organization's 76th conference, Martans stated that Panama's current problem has not been caused solely by the foreign debt. He pointed out that despite the adverse international situation, the country's economy grew by 2.9 percent in 1986. The following year, however, the U.S. Government and several backward national groups began a destabilization campaign against Panama.

Martans noted that a decrease in the gross domestic product, which dropped between 15 and 20 percent in 1988, has led to the greatest economic recession any generation of Panamanians has ever experienced during the country's life as a republic.

At the meeting, attended by delegates from employer, worker, and government groups from about 150 countries, Martans stated that it is imperative to condemn the brutal economic aggression being waged against Panama. He added that the illegal economic sanctions designed to destroy the government have affected the entire population, especially the workers.

Martans wondered how one could not condemn this aggression at the meeting, before the workers of the world. The Panamanian people and government, he added, are victims of this aggression merely because of their desire to maintain Panama's dignity as a free and sovereign nation.

COLINA's Duque on Dialogue Possibilities

PA1906162289 Panama City LA REPUBLICA DOMINICAL in Spanish 18 Jun 89 p 11-B

[Interview with Carlos Duque Jaen, former presidential candidate for the National Liberation Coalition (COLINA) by Justo Arroyo; date and place not given]

[Text] [Arroyo] What did the political campaign mean to you?

[Duque] For us, the political campaign was an opportunity to get closer to the people. We also learned of their boundless wisdom. The recent political campaign showed us that democracy cannot be imposed from abroad; it must be built within each community, regardless of how distant they are.

[Arroyo] In view of the election annulment, what formulas does the PRD [Democratic Revolutionary Party] propose to end the current impasse?

[Duque] Political groups want political solutions. Any political proposal must be preceded by actions that will inspire confidence and mutual respect among political adversaries. The next step must be taken in a concerted way and with a clear awareness that this is a Panamanian problem that must be solved by the Panamanian people themselves. An end to the U.S. Government's economic blockade, political aggression, and military threats must necessarily be part of any possible solution. The PRD will support any initiative in that direction.

[Arroyo] Ignoring the COLINA [National Liberation Coalition] parties, the opposition has proposed a direct dialogue with General Noriega [commander in chief of the Panama Defense Forces (FDP)]. What do you think of that position?

[Duque] We have repeatedly said that we are open to talks that will make it possible for the country to overcome the current situation. We do not understand why the opposition groups insist on tripartite talks in which the FDP must necessarily participate. The FDP General Staff and its commander in chief have stressed publicly in a strong statement that they will ENDORSE [preceding word published in uppercase] the results of a dialogue among the country's main political blocs. If politicians have been given those full guarantees, then there is no need to delay this meeting, which the country so urgently demands.

[Arroyo] Following up on the previous question, how would you define the future correlation between civilian and military forces in our country?

[Duque] There should be no line of demarcation between the civilians and the military. We cannot ignore the role the military plays in our society, particularly in the struggle for national independence. If that role is maintained, the military will always have something to contribute to the nation's future, whether it participates directly or indirectly in government leadership.

[Arroyo] What actions would you recommend in the short, medium, or long term to enable economic recovery in the country?

[Duque] Economic recovery is a priority for us and for the PRD. We have survived the aggression, which means that the worst is behind us. We have been successful in obtaining economic support from nontraditional sources. Local industrialists have realized the damage caused to the country by confusing opposition to a government with opposition to a country.

During this phase, special emphasis should be placed on promoting exports, because they are a source of income and production. This is already being done in the agricultural and livestock sectors with melons, beef, and other products. As for export services, we must expand operations in the Free Zone to accommodate the handling of low-cost products, such as packing and the reexport of medicine, which we have done in the past. Taking advantage of our geographical location can be another source of employment in export activities. The Center Port Project, in addition to increasing port activity, will facilitate Panama's development as an international commercial center.

[Arroyo] What steps would you suggest to achieve a true national reconciliation?

[Duque] The government must take prior steps. A common agenda is lacking. Obviously, there will never be national unity. There will be unity regarding specific and definite plans to improve the people's lot.

[Arroyo] Education and culture have been particularly vulnerable to reactionary influences and ideological penetration. What would you suggest to bring about an educational and cultural renaissance?

[Duque] Our struggle against intervention is making us mature politically and ideologically. Education and culture will benefit if this struggle is coherent. It is imperative to further improve education and to promote all forms of culture and art.

[Arroyo] What type of international strategy do you think Panama should pursue in view of the OAS partiality and the U.S. violations of the canal treaties with the obvious intent of abrogating them?

[Duque] Panama's struggle requires a favorable international climate. We must obtain more solidarity from the people themselves rather than from the governments. After all, people cannot tolerate capitulating attitudes on the part of governments and international organizations. We should demand more efforts to obtain international cooperation. There cannot be democracy without national independence. The PRD rejects all meddling in our internal affairs regardless of the source. Our party believes that compliance with the 1977 Torrijos-Carter treaties is indispensable.

[Arroyo] In view of the scenario of collapse evident in all Latin American countries and the fact that in 1992 the leading capitalist European countries will become a community—an event for which Latin America is unprepared—what steps should our countries take to avoid becoming only consumers and sources of raw materials and cheap labor?

[Duque] It is a well-known fact that the structure of international economic relations is unfair and no longer responds to current realities. This affects the Latin American countries. The current deterioration in trade relations between Latin America and industrialized nations must be stopped. It is indispensable to establish multilateral negotiations between our countries and the industrialized nations to address important issues, such as the public debt and the lifting of protective measures imposed by the leading economic powerhouses. We feel that the forum to reach regional agreements should be the Latin American Economic System because it includes all of our Latin American countries without political bias. However, the dialogue with the EC has to have a political context.

[Arroyo] What message do you think should be urgently conveyed to the Panamanian youth?

[Duque] That they study and struggle for a more just and independent society. The Panamanian youth must understand that full democracy is incompatible with the domination of one country by another.

Opposition Legislator Reacts to Parliamentarians

PA2006044089 Panama City City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 19 Jun 89

[Interview with opposition legislator Francisco Artola by unidentified reporter; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Artola] I feel the parliamentarians invited by General Noriega's government should have investigated the internal aggression Gen Noriega is waging in our country against the majority of the Panamanians who believe in democracy. The parliamentarians only limited themselves to seeing what the government showed them. However, they were unable to thoroughly investigate the political problems we Panamanians must solve. These parliamentarians came here at the expense of the Panamanian people, who are experiencing an economic crisis, and the government spent thousands upon thousands of balboas to mount a session here that really has nothing to do with Panama's problems. Actually, they issued declarations to support a dictatorship that is worsening the crisis in our country.

[Reporter] Did any of these parliamentarians meet with the Panamanian opposition?

[Artola] None, because they were not interested in learning what is really burdening our country. They simply wanted to create a negative picture of the democracy in our country.

ADOC 'Insists' Noriega Must Participate

PA2006031189 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 19 Jun 89

[Text] The Civic Democratic Opposition Alliance [ADOC] insists that the participation of General Manuel Antonio Noriega in a national dialogue is necessary to achieve a prompt solution to the Panamanian problem. Ricardo Arias Calderon, former first vice presidential candidate, tells us:

[Begin recording] Without giving up our basic stand of ADOC's holding direct conversations with the Panama Defense Forces, we have tried to accept the OAS suggestions. We have done this to offer our country a hopeful solution, so the country will not continue to sink. However, this effort by ADOC has met with the same intransigence and the same contempt for the sufferings of people that we have had up to now. [end recording]

PRD Expulsion Possible at SI Conference

PA2006023689 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 19 Jun 89

[Text] Luis Ayala, the assistant secretary general of Socialist International [SI], told EFE in Stockholm, Sweden, that the Democratic Revolutionary Party [PRD] of Panama might be expelled from SI because of the annulment of the 7 May Panamanian presidential elections. SI is celebrating its 100th anniversary congress in Sweden, where Ayala said the Panama situation might be discussed. During another meeting held in late May in Jamaica, the SI said democracy should be respected in Panama.

PPA Leader Calls for Political Coalition

PA1906155189 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 19 Jun p B-1

[Paid advertisement by the Authentic Panamenist Party (PPA)]

[Text] Three-time **President of Panama and PPA founding leader Dr Arnulfo Arias M.**, with prophetic foresight, told of the imperious need for the **absolute unity of all Panamanians**, instead of the intransigent confrontation by those with a vested interest. At the time, it was stressed that the Panama Defense Forces "have good sons" and that a "a silver bridge" would be extended "and a civic government would take power to give the people guarantees" so that we could all "eat yucca and honey," which is tastier than any American cocktail.

"A Greater and Better Panama," is being postponed by members of the national directorates of the Christian Democratic Party, MOLIRENA [Nationalist Liberal Republican Movement], and the Authentic Liberal Party, who still have not appointed their two candidates for "the great meeting of **national agreement** without preconditions and to make decisions by consensus," to take place on 30 June, at Cerro Azul.

These patriotic deliberations toward national reconci' ation and the country's reconstruction "were the resu.. of concern and patriotic interest" by Hildebrando A. Nicosia Perez, current president and former secretary general for 30 years of the **Authentic Arnulfista Panamenist Party**. Since 1983, Nicosia has insisted on the need for a **great coalition of consciences without sectarism** to establish a democratic government **"without violent revenge or lying demagoguery and without hateful discrimination or sick favoritism."**

Church Newspaper Column Advocates Free Press

PA1906222189 Panama City PANORAMA CATOLICO in Spanish 18 Jun p 4

["Layman's Opinion" column by Oscar A. Lopez O.]

[Text] Today, more than ever, we need a free media in Panama to fight rumors—rumors that start because of a lack of official information channels. The media have been replaced by the rumor mill. Today, more than ever, we need truthful information; concise, intelligent, and comprehensive descriptions of what is happening in our country. We need media with differing viewpoints from various sectors within our country—sectors that have the right (by social and divine law) to supply and receive information.

Today the work of the media should be to communicate what Panamanians do, feel, and think. Today we notice the absence of a clear, guiding, exact, and balanced journalism; instead, we notice a finger-pointing journalism. Suppression and lack of information is indefensible. In defending the Panamanian people's right to be informed, we are at the same time defending the vital rights of all human beings. W. Williams [not further identified] wrote: "I believe that successful journalism fears God and honors man ... and attempts to give all men an opportunity, so far as the law and human brotherhood permit, an equal opportunity..."

Participation is a democratic goal beginning with the democratization of information. The media have the obligation to offer liberty.

Today, more than ever in Panama, there should be a desire to serve and keep the public abreast of the real meaning of the news and events. A country that is anxious to learn that does not have a voice or adequate news sources can hardly govern itself and shape its own future. Panama should be well known for a free press, for freely formed and expressed public opinions that would encourage a democratic system. A manipulated, controlled, and partially informed public opinion deforms democracy's true reality. Due to the low levels of information and unequal access to information, public opinion has been shaped by rumor and by international public opinion.

The democratic system we seek is a system with individuals who are aware and who have the ability to speak out. These opinions should be disseminated through a free and objective media. Without this and without the exchange of opinions, we would go from a democracy to a dictatorship.

Panamanians had the opportunity to choose their leaders, and today, more than ever, there is a need for us to be responsibly, consistently, and reliably informed. Only in this way can we reject or accept what is proposed to us.

New Health Minister, IMA Director Appointed

PA2006035889 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 19 Jun 89

[Text] Dr Jose Renan Esquivel was appointed this afternoon by the executive branch as new health minister. He replaces Jose Francisco Sanchez Cardenas, who will be appointed to another post.

Dr Esquivel, who has held the post of director of the Childrens Hospital for 23 years, also had formerly held the posts of health minister and Social Security Fund director.

This afternoon, the executive branch also appointed Dr Rafael Castrellon as new director of the Agricultural and Livestock Marketing Institute [IMA]. Dr Castrellon replaces Didio Carrizo.

Argentina

5 Presidents To Attend Menem's Inauguration

PY1906164389 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1407 GMT 19 Jun 89

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 19 Jun (EFE)—The presidents of Brazil, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela have confirmed that they will attend Menem's inauguration in Buenos Aires on 8 July.

Buenos Aires diplomatic sources have said that Brazilian President Jose Sarney was the first head of state to confirm his visit and therefore will be the first president to give his ceremonial salute during the inauguration ceremony.

President Raul Alfonsin's government has sent invitations to the presidents of the 82 countries with which Argentina maintains permanent diplomatic relations.

It is now a little more than 2 weeks before Menem's inauguration, and Paraguayan President Andres Rodriguez, Peruvian President Alan Garcia Perez, Uruguayan President Julio Maria Sanguinetti, and Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez have confirmed that they too will attend. [passage omitted]

Alfonsin Reportedly Suffering From 'Grippe'

PY2006130889 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1148 GMT 20 Jun 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 20 Jun (TELAM)—President Raul Alfonsin is suffering from grippe and will spend the day at the Olivos Residence. This was reported by presidential spokesman Jose Ignacio Lopez through the presidential press office.

Alfonsin will therefore not go to Government House as he usually does on Tuesdays. He has no official audiences scheduled today at the Olivos Residence.

Brazil

Interior Minister Will Visit U.S., USSR

PY2006020289 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 19 Jun 89

[By Carlos Alberto]

[Text] Interior Minister Joao Alves will visit the United States and the Soviet Union. Alves will hold 2 weeks of talks with representatives of these two governments and heads of international financial organizations, as well as visit irrigation projects.

Upon his arrival in New York on 21 June, Minister Alves will meet with Citibank representatives to discuss housing programs and international loans. On 22 June he will meet with the IDB [Inter-American Development Bank] chairman.

Minister Alves will visit the USSR from 25 June to 2 July, where he will meet with the Soviet irrigation minister and with members of the State Environmental Committee. He will also visit scientific and research centers and irrigation projects in the (Kasonodar) region. In Leningrad, Alves will visit drinking water distribution and irrigation systems.

CACEX: May Trade Surplus Over $1 Billion

PY2006012389 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 19 Jun 89

[By Niomar de Oliveira]

[Text] The Foreign Trade Department (CACEX) today reported in Rio de Janeiro that the Brazilian trade surplus for May was $1,387,000,000. The January-May 1989 trade surplus stands at $7,021,000,000, the highest in the last 10 years. The accumulated trade surplus in the last 12 months stands at $19,385,000,000.

Steel products, soybean, and transportation sector parts are reaching record highs. Most of these exports were produced in Sao Paulo State.

Itamaraty Official Explains Weapons Programs

PY2006014489 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 19 Jun 89

[By Gustavo Mariani]

[Text] Itamaraty Secretary General Paulo Tarso Flecha de Lima has said that Brazil's efforts in the scientific and technological field are not a threat to the United States. He emphasized that these efforts are aimed only at national development and that Brazil has always been a peaceful country and will never be a threat to its neighbors.

Regarding Brazilian military policies, Flecha de Lima said:

[Begin recording] Although Itamaraty's policy is not to comment on the sale of weapons abroad, I must insist again that Brazil is very conscientious regarding its sales of weapons abroad. We always take into consideration the political implications of the sales and of the purchasing country's strategic scenario. [end recording]

The Itamaraty spokesman said that the U.S. Government plans no economic sanctions or military actions against Brazil if the country develops a program to manufacture missiles. Rumors of such sanctions originated due to a study being carried out by a private company for the U.S. Library of Congress on the technological capacity of 16 countries, including Brazil.

Resignation of Central Bank Chairman Accepted

PY2006021989 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2300 GMT 19 Jun 89

[Text] President Sarney has just accepted the resignation of Central Bank Chairman Elmo Camoes. Camoes released a note in Sao Paulo this afternoon saying that his company, Capitania, which is involved in the Naji Nahas financial fraud, is having difficulties.

In the official note, Camoes said he is not using the Central Bank power or public funds to save his company.

In accordance with the terms of the new Constitution, the appointment of a Central Bank chairman must be approved by Congress.

Colombia

Ecuadoran President Arrives for Official Visit

PA1906194689 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 19 Jun 89

[Report by Jesus Garzon—passages in quotation marks recorded]

[Text] We have an illustrious visitor in the capital of the Republic. Ecuadoran President Rodrigo Borja Ceballos arrived in Bogota today for a 3-day official visit. The Ecuadoran president, who celebrates his 54th birthday today, concluded his first meeting with Colombian President Virgilio Barco a few minutes ago.

President Borja arrived this morning with specific proposals on how to settle drug trafficking and other international problems, and to discuss Ecuador's position concerning the world coffee pact. He and a large delegation from his country were welcomed by Colombian Foreign Minister Julio Londono Paredes.

Local and international journalists awaited President Borja at Catam Military Aiport. They welcomed him by singing Happy Birthday.

[Begin recording] [Reporters] Happy birthday to you!

[Borja] Thank you everyone. Well, it is another year of walking the land.

[Reporter] How will you celebrate your birthday in Colombia?

[Borja] I think that I will celebrate as is customary, meaning with family. I come to celebrate it with my Colombian brothers. [end recording]

The Ecuadoran president referred to the economic situation in his country and said that his mission to Bogota is to renew economic, social, and cultural agreements with Colombia. President Borja talked about drug trafficking and said it should be fought, without respite, with measures agreed upon between producer and consumer countries. On his country's position concerning the critical situation involving the world coffee pact, Borja answered the journalists' questions.

[Begin recording] [Borja] You must understand that we have a large surplus of coffee. Our surplus exceeds 30 percent; that is too much for us or any other country. Therefore, we have to adopt measures to reduce the coffee production surplus. [end recording]

The Ecuadoran president and his delegation, led by Foreign Minister Diego Cordovez, went immediately to Narino Palace, where they were welcomed with military honors by President Barco. The Ecuadoran president will stay 48 hours in Bogota, during which time he will sign agreements with the Colombian Government.

At this time, the Ecuadoran President has been in Bogota 2 hours and he has already participated in three public ceremonies—he talked with journalists, greeted President Barco, and placed a wreath at the Bolivar monument. The president will remain in the country until Wednesday.

Foreign Minister Diego Cordovez will also stay in Bogota until Wednesday; he will then go to Caracas—while President Borja returns to Quito—with Foreign Minister Julio Londono Paredes. They will participate in the Group of 77 economic meeting.

'Massacre' Investigator Gunned Down in Bogota

PA1906180689 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 11 Jun 89 p 7-B

[Unattributed report]

[Summary] On the evening of 9 June in Bogota, two unidentified assailants gunned down chief investigator Francisco Hernandez Lozano, 26, killing him instantly. Since January, Hernandez—who is the fourth person killed in connection with the investigation—had been investigating the massacre in La Rochela, involving the murders of Judicial Branch authorities. These authorities were killed while investigating the approximately 25 murders that have occurred recently in Magdalena Department. Hernandez had received many death threats, but his fellow workers said that he never took the threats seriously.

Army Kills 6 Guerrillas; ELN Attacks Pipeline

PA1906185289 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1731 GMT 19 Jun 89

[Text] According to a last-minute official report, six guerrillas of the Camilist Union of the Army of National Liberation [ELN] died today during fighting with (La Popa) Battalion troops on the slopes of the Perija Mountain Range. A military command spokesman said that

the fighting took place a scant 10 km from the village of San Jacinto in San Diego Municipality, where four soldiers died last week in an ambush.

Police and military forces have stepped up surveillance around the Cano Limon-Covenas pipeline after two new attacks, also by the ELN, occurred in Huila and North Santander Departments.

The terrorist attack in Huila Department took place in La Motosa, near Aipe Municipality, where the pipeline that pumps crude oil between Neiva and La Dorada was dynamited. Humberto Brines traveled early today to the scene of the events and reported the following:

[Begin Brines recording] A new attack was perpetrated last night against the pipeline that pumps crude oil from Neiva to Dorada. Suspected ELN guerrillas placed a dynamite charge at the place called La Motosa, near Aipe Municipality, which completely destroyed the guard post and a stretch of the pipeline. A fire immediately broke out and the installation was completely gutted.

Crude oil pumping was suspended and efforts to contain the fire and to repair the pipeline began at 2300. The extent of the losses has not yet been assessed. This pipeline pumps 58,000 barrels of oil per day. The main pumping station is located in Aipe Municipality. Workers from (Jocol) and ECOPETROL [Colombian Petroleum Enterprise] worked intensely through the predawn hours to repair the pipeline, enabling it to resume pumping operations at 1000.

Even though the ELN has repeatedly threatened the oil pipelines, work has continued on the construction of a new multiple pipeline in Huila, which will pump 138,000 barrels of oil per day between Neiva and Covenas. The same pipeline was blown up only 1 month ago, a scarce 25 km from that same location. [end recording]

Rebel Station Reports Oil Pipeline Attack

PA2006030989 (Clandestine) Radio Patria Libre in Spanish to Colombia 0040 GMT 20 Jun 89

[Text] Attention, Huila Department: Camilist Union-Army of National Liberation [UC-ELN] assault commandos have dynamited the Neiva-La Dorada oil pipeline located in southwestern Colombia.

The sabotage of this oil pipeline took place at La Motosa, Aipe Municipality, located just 30 minutes away from the capital city of Huila Department.

The explosion started a fire that affected several camps built near the Neiva-La Dorada oil station.

The pumping of crude in that area has been suspended, thus affecting San Francisco Camp oil production. The Neiva-La Dorada oil pipeline pumps oil from the production area in Huila Department to the refinery in La Dorada, Caldas Department. This is the second attack carried out by the UC-ELN against ECOPETROL [Colombian Petroleum Enterprise] and the multinational Houston Petroleum Company installations in Huila Department in less than 20 days.

Through these attacks, the UC-ELN is insisting on the need to nationalize the oil industry in Colombia, to create the national petroleum council, to hold a national debate for the defense of our natural resources, and to support Huila Department residents' demands for the construction of a refinery in that region, since Huila is one of the biggest oil-production departments in Colombia.

DAS Breaks Up Band of Rebels, Kidnappers

PA1906190089 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 14 Jun 89 p 8-b

[Text] The DAS [Administrative Department of Security] has broken up a band of suspected kidnappers and EPL [Popular Liberation Army] guerrillas in La Mojana region. Fernando Insignares Roman, the DAS director in Sucre Department, said that five suspected guerrillas carrying rifles, handguns, and ammunition of various calibers were captured.

The extremists were identified as Albano Gil Ribera, Emilio Aguas Tovar, Luis Hernandez Mejia, Norberto Gomez Diaz, and Pedro Meneses Anaya, all of whom were from Sucre.

Ecuador

Government Issues Statement on Citibank Decision

PA1906130389 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1207 GMT 19 Jun 89

[Text] In an official communique, the Ecuadoran Government has announced that the Citibank's unilateral and arbitrary decision to debit $80 million, which had been deposited in its accounts because of commitments made by the country since 1986, has altered the terms made known by the foreign debt renegotiation commission to the management commission [comite de gestion].

The document states that the partial payment of the 1989 interest is included in the funds deposited in Citibank. Moreover, payments to several countries as a result of commitments stemming from projects financed by the World Bank have not been made as a result of the Citibank's action.

The government's policy—which is upheld by the commission formed by the chairman of the Monetary Board, the finance minister, and the Central Bank manager—has been to seek equitable solutions to the foreign debt problem and to prevent useless confrontations so as to find the means to meet the country's development needs. The dialogue, the communique adds, will be continued

in the meeting with the management commission scheduled for 12 July, which will discuss the new circumstances resulting from the Citibank's harmful decision and the country's economic situation.

The document states that the Ecuadoran commission continues its efforts to find a solution in view of Citibank's illegal action, which harms the country and the other creditors by seizing funds that should go to Ecuador.

Peru

Shining Path Commemorates Riots With Attacks

PY1906214989 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1847 GMT 19 Jun 89

[Text] Lima, 19 Jun (EFE)—The police have reported that the Maoist Shining Path terrorist group planted a car bomb and several other bombs in Lima to commemorate the anniversary of the death of 250 Shining Path members during riots in several Lima prisons 3 years ago.

The police said that this morning they patrolled the city and confiscated a number of flags with the hammer and sickle, the Shining Path emblem, in different Lima suburbs.

The explosions took place a few hours after President Alan Garcia met with Defense Minister General Julio Velazquez to analyze measures adopted by police and the Army to prevent attacks on this anniversary.

The Shining Path has declared 19 June "heroes day" in commemoration of the death of the 250 Shining Path members who rebelled 3 years ago in various Lima prisons.

The police reported that the car bomb exploded before the terrorists planned, and the men driving the car abandoned it when they realized that the propane gas supply connected to the dynamite sticks would not be sufficient for them to reach their target, the Defense Ministry.

Bombs exploded simultaneously in different exclusive Lima neighborhoods, near homes of Peruvian politicians, and near the headquarters of the rightist Liberty Movement, headed by writer Mario Vargas Llosa, a presidential candidate for the 1990 elections.

"The explosions caused property damage in luxury residences, but no victims," the police said.

The attacks took place despite the fact that Lima has been intensely patrolled for a week by several hundred policemen and Army members.

The police, which adopted strict security measures, yesterday thoroughly searched people who visited terrorists in prison and watched the cemeteries where the 250 Shining Path members who participated in the prison riots are buried.

The armed struggle begun by the Shining Path in 1980 has claimed the lives of 150 people this month and 1,275 people this year.

Mayor, Professor Killed by Shining Path

PY2006024989 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 20 Jun 89

[Text] Roberto Ruiz Vargas, mayor of the town of Yarinacocha, Ucayali Department and a member of the American Popular Revolutionary Alliance party, was murdered today at 1645 by a Shining Path terrorist, who shot him four times in cold blood.

Terrorists also killed a professor named Ananias Manturano and kidnapped another professor, Arturo Romo, in Huancayo.

Korean Deputy Foreign Minister Visits Lima

PY2006024689 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 20 Jun 89

[Text] Sin Tong-won, deputy foreign minister of the Republic of Korea, is on an official visit to Peru. He is accompanied by (Om Tan Sik), South American Department director of the Korean Foreign Ministry, and (Li Jon Kiu), Foreign Ministry secretary.

The Korean delegation met with the Peruvian foreign minister to discuss bilateral relations and the possibility of increasing cooperation between the two countries.

Guyana

Colombians Plead Guilty To Illegal Entry

FL1706184089 Bridgetown CANA in English 2038 GMT 16 Jun 89

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, June 16, CANA—Three Colombians linked by the authorities here to an illegal airstrip have pleaded guilty to entering Guyana illegally.

The three—Jose Betancur Arango, Jesus Eduardo Zulaga and Libardo Zapata Lopera—were found by police in a secluded camp in a jungle area in Guyana's intermediate Savannahs last February. This happened after the discovery of an illegal aristrip and a crashed, 18-seater Rockwell Commander aircraft in the Tacama area in Berbice, eastern Guyana.

Police suspect that they were involved in a fledgling drug smuggling operation spearheaded by an American citizen who had entered the country legally, but fled before the police closed in on him.

When they appeared before Magistrate Horace Sahai at the Wales Magistrate Court, West Demerara, Thursday, the Colombians changed their plea to "guilty" and the magistrate reserved his decision on the penalty to be imposed.

The offence carries a 500 dollar (one Guy dollar-3 U.S. cents) fine, or a 6 month jail term.

The Colombians are accused of entering Guyana by air, between November 1988 and February 8, 1989, other than [as heard] by through a legal port of entry. They are also jointly charged with Guyanese Winston Fernandes with knowingly concerned with goods with intent to defraud the state of revenue and with unlawful possession of arms and ammunition. [sentence as heard]

'Shaky' Start for Economic Recovery Program
FL1906163689 Bridgetown CANA in English 1627 GMT 16 Jun 89

[By Courtney Gibson]

[Text] Georgetown, June 16, CANA—Guyana's Economic Recovery Programme (ERP) has had a shaky start, with strikes by state-paid workers and business closures.

The work stoppages in the sugar and bauxite sectors—major sources of foreign exchange—are over, but the cost in production has been high. And while President Desmond Hoyte encourages employees to put the strikes behind them and step up productivity, the business community is complaining of a contraction in sales linked to the austerity package.

The International Monetary Fund-supported ERP was launched with the late March presentation of the national budget. It quickly ran into trouble with strikes in the sugar, bauxite sectors, where workers complained a 20 per cent pay increase had been virtually wiped out by higher prices. The Chamber of Commerce and Industry has reported a fall off in investment because of high bank interest rates and the effect of the consumption tax on locally produced goods. "One manufacturing sector is not increasing production. Sales have dropped," Executive Secretary of Chamber, George Fung-on told CANA. "High interest rates are causing them not to borrow to finance production. Some factories have had to close for the time being. Some had stock they couldn't get off their hand."

Guyana is preparing for the first IMF quarterly economic review under the aid program at month-end. The Central Bank governor, Pat Matthews, said in an interview this month: "We are assessing what's going on before deciding what to do next. There was no production (in the bauxite and sugar sector) for several weeks and things will have to be revised. One can't say anything at the moment. We are working on the numbers."

The first quarter saw public demonstrations against the government's 1989 budget. It saw, too, the burning of hundreds of acres of sugarcane, several cases of alleged arson of public property including a big state-owned bookstore, and the dismissal and subsequent reinstatement of nearly 300 government workers for the participating in the industrial action.

Not much information is available about the overall performance of the national economy and about the specifics of the government's agreement with the IMF, approved April 28 by the fund's board of Directors. Governor of the (central) Bank of Guyana, Pat Matthews, says however, that the situation is being assessed by government and IMF technicians.

Last month when President Desmond Hoyte visited Barbados, Guyana Sugar Corporation's president, Harold Davis said the country lost some GUY$41 million dollars (one Guy dollar 3 U.S. cents) during the strikes called by the Federations of Independent Trade Unions of Guyana (FITUG). In April, at the height of the strike, Bauxite Industry Development Company chairman, Bernard Crawford said the sector was losing U.S. 400,000 dollars a day. That represented a serious loss for foreign exchange at a time when the Hoyte regime is seeking nearly U.S. 2 billion dollars from the international financial community for the three-year ERP.

Eusi Kwayana, a co-leader of the opposition Working Peoples' Alliance (WPA) says that while no one expects an economy to improve in two months, the issue in Guyana is whether the economy can improve in three years. "Fundamentally, the people—including the active production workers—are experiencing either semi-starvation or full starvation. There is, of course, a minority of people who will work under any condition but morale is extremely low and there is no incentive to work," Kwayana said.

Mrs. Janet Jagan, senior member of the Marxist-Leninist, Peoples' Progressive Party (PPP) and wife of opposition leader Dr. Cheddi Jagan, is concerned about the steep increase in the cost of living. "The rise in prices of all goods and services has had the effect of increasing malnutrition especially among children, increasing the lines at the embassies of those who want to leave the country, and the decided lowering of the living standards of the people, Mrs. Jagan contended. She said that because of "low purchasing power", some prices of goods have dropped and "merchants are unhappy because they have lower sales."

Fung-on of the Chamber of Commerce noted, however that "some sort of normalcy" seems to have been restored to the economy now that the bauxite and sugar workers are back on the job. "Money being short, the exploitative prices have been forced down and the prices are now more realistic and are levelling off," Fung-on explained.

At the beginning of the year, the U.S. dollar was being bought on the parallel market here at a rate of 40 Guyana dollars for one U.S. dollar. Immediately before the budget, the rate shot up to about 61 Guyana dollars for one U.S. dollar. However, the rate has dropped to between 46 and 48 Guyana dollars for one U.S. dollar, and the price of imports is down.

The price for a one-litre bottle of edible oil has dropped from 120 dollars to 63 dollars; a five-pound tin of powdered milk from 600 dollars to 400 dollars; one pound of locally produced butter from 65 dollars to 34 dollars; and split peas, from 25 dollars to 18 per pint.

The prices of local agricultural produce have dropped sharply compared with their immediate post budget levels.

The local producers of cigarettes and toothpaste for example, have complained that they could be forced to close because they cannot compete with similar—and illegal—imports on which no taxes are paid. Alcoholic and other beverage producers have also complained that their sales have been slashed by about 50 percent because of the taxes which must be added to their own increased cost of production.

"The situation was not conducive to borrowing for there was no market for some manufacturers to get their products off their hands," said Fung-on.

Managing director of the National Bank of Industry and Commerce (NBIC) Raymond Ackloo, contends, however, that with the mopping up of liquidity, reluctance to borrow will only be a temporary affair.

"...What would happen is that for firms to continue the level or volumes of business that they have done before devaluation, they would need to borrow commensurately more money from the banking system or inject their own funds," Ackloo said.

Meantime, the public is not very "forthcoming" with substantial new deposits.

"Although the banking system now has approximately 4.5 billion dollars in deposits, cash on the streets total one billion dollars," Ackloo explained.

The theory in banking and business circles is that if individuals or firms start channelling large amounts into the "enumerated sector" they will be exposing themselves to the island revenue department.

On the labour front, meanwhile, the divided seven-member Federation of Independent Trade Unions of Guyana (FITUG) ponders a row between two of its affiliates and a third has left the rebel ranks.

General secretary of the established umbrella organisation, the Guyana Trades Union Congress (TUC) Joseph Pollydore is, however, optimistic about the prospects of relief for the nation's workers.

Public sector workers are insisting on pay increases far in excess of the 20 per cent across-the-board granted by the budget. Seven joint government-TUC committees are to examine and report by June 23 on issues raised by the TUC, including wages and demands for reduction in prices of several basic items such as rice, sugar, cooking gas kerosene, and gasolene.

"All in all, I would say the situation is back to normal—except of course if something tangible is not forthcoming out of all the discussions taking place, one can't predict what will be the new developments in the country," Pollydore told CANA.

Corporation Loses Over $20 Million in Strike

FL1906132189 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 19 Jun 89

[Text] The state-run Guyana Sugar Corporation says it lost more than $20 million in the recent strike by cane cutters and refinery workers. An unidentified corporation official said over the weekend that the loss stemmed from an inability to meet European Community sugar quotas. The EEC pays Guyana nearly $200 more per ton for its sugar than the world market price.

It was the first time in history that Guyana failed to meet its quota for the community.

The 7-week strike was called by the workers to protest price hikes for food and consumer goods.